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VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Building Excellence Awards 2017

WOMAN IN BATTLE FOR FAIR PENSIONS

by TIM CHAPMAN



Kay Clarke.

A Barry woman is a key member of a campaign aimed at making sure women are treated fairly in receiving state pensions.

Kay Clarke (61) is one of the regional administrators of the WASPI action group - 'Women Against State Pension Inequality'.

Members are campaigning against what they argue are unfair changes to the state pension age for women born on or after April 6, 1951.

Kay told The GEM: "We have been attempting to persuade the government to consider transitional arrangements for women born in the 1950s who have been very badly affected by the changes.

"We ladies of a certain age have been badly hit by the lack of fair transitional arrangements for the receipt of our pension.

"My own circumstances reflect that of many women who were expecting to receive a pension at the age of 60.

"When we started our working lives there was no equal pay, no pre-school nurseries, no tax credits, no help with childcare, other than willing family members, and most women gave up work to have their children.

"I gave up the highest salary and took on work to fit around my husband's working day to make ends meet."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

SUPPORTERS FLOCK TO WATCH BARRY TOWN UNITED BATTLE TNS



BARRY TOWN UNITED were involved in what was arguably their biggest game in 14 years on Saturday when they faced **TNS** in the Nathaniel MG Welsh Premier League Cup final at the Cyncoed Stadium Cardiff.

The club faced a tough task in defeating the all-conquering north Walian outfit, who had just come off the back of 28 consecutive victories, but the team, a league lower than their much-vaunted opposition, battled hard and hit the crossbar through Jordan Cotterill before succumbing to a 4-0 defeat which hugely flattered the opposition and was very harsh on a committed Barry performance.

Around 800 supporters made the journey to Cardiff to give their team all their backing, and were no doubt hugely proud of the effort the players, staff and management put in.

A full match report is available on page 48, while **SAME OLD SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO** was on hand to capture the action from the game, which can be seen on pages 35 and 43.

For Barry, their attentions now turn to promotion, and if they perform as they did against TNS, then few teams will be able to stop the team achieving their ambition.

Picture by 'Same Old Smith Photography and Video'.

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Performance and tangled politics

JUST before the last council elections five years ago, a member of Focus-BARRY submitted a Freedom of Information request about a councillor's attendance at council meetings.

The council's initial response was to request that the applicant agree to the release of their name: how threatening does that sound?

Judging by the article in last week's GEM, 'Independents claim a victory over councillors' attendance details', there appears to be some paranoia affecting our political masters at the VoG Council on this issue, so a little balance may be helpful.

It is right for the council leader and deputy leader to infer that attendance at council meetings is not a comprehensive measure of performance, but is anyone suggesting that is the case?

Councillors at that higher level will also attend many more meetings and that point is supported by the evidence of the FoI response, referred to above, when the Tories were in charge.

Generally, Conservative attendance was a lot higher and Labour a lot lower.

The substantial payments made to those receiving additional special responsibility

allowances (adding up to about £50k for Coun Moore and £30k for Coun Burnett) will also merit greater motivation than the majority of councillors on the basic £13k.

Another point is that Coun Mahoney was the only UKIP councillor and is now part of the independent group. The formula for the allocation of committee seats is set out in legislation, and being part of a small group or the only representative of a group, will by law, mean fewer seats for him.

It is, therefore, misleading for the deputy leader to compare her attendance with Coun Mahoney. It is also worth saying that high attendance doesn't necessarily mean useful contributions.

But what about the voters who only get one tiny chance every five years to influence things? What objective information can we have on performance when politics is, at best, entangled in complexity, subjectivity, evasion and spin?

In the absence of any measure of performance, attendance at council meetings is an indication and people are not stupid enough to believe it is anything more than that.

One could easily conclude that the desire not to publish this information speaks louder than the data itself.

Dennis Harkus, Barry.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Counting the cost of councillors' roles and Severn Bridge tolls

FURTHER to two articles in the January 19 issue of The GEM, I feel it necessary to comment as follows.

The article headlined 'Independents claim a victory over councillors' attendance details' contained many examples of the variety of work our councillors undertake in their role.

However, it failed to mention that all members of the council are paid a salary of £13,300 per annum simply for being a councillor. Coun Moore earns £48,000 per year as leader of the council and Coun

Burnett earns £33,500 per year as deputy leader. For these salary levels, I expect them to work long hours in and outside normal 'office hours'.

One wonders how many council employees earn these levels of salary? It should be noted that one councillor did not claim their salary.

Some other items mentioned were not, I believe, requirements of being a councillor, eg: school governors are voluntary posts.

I appreciate that there will always be occasions when other reasons will prevent attendance at meetings but, given their salaries, they should be there – or formally send apologies that can be recorded in the minutes.

In addition, I did not understand the comments regarding electronic recording of votes, as the council clerk could easily list the members' votes without the need for more expenditure, or was the concern that this may take up a small amount of time, which could reduce their hourly income?

There was also an article about reducing the Severn bridge tolls, which I declare a vested interest in, as I have family in Bristol, but would ask the Secretary of State for Wales to push the Secretary for Transport to speed up the Newport bypass.

Getting through the tolls using number plate recognition technology, will reduce queues at the toll booths, but simply mean an extension to the already long traffic queues at the Malpas tunnels. Gain in one place, lose it all in another!

David Ludlow, Barry.

'Parking fine caused me a lot of stress'

ON October 24, I travelled to Llandough Hospital for day surgery and was dropped off at the short stay unit at 7.30am. The car was then driven back to my home in Barry.

Unfortunately, I needed to stay overnight. One month later, I received a parking fine from Parking Eye – £70, reduced to £40 if paid promptly.

I appealed in writing to Parking Eye, stating the car was not parked in Llandough for 11 hours and 32 minutes, and that it had picked up my sons at 4pm from Barry Dock.

My appeal was turned down. I received notification a day after the reduced rate fine ran out, and with no address for another appeal.

I wrote to Parking Eye with a statement from my sons' boss, to say the car had picked them up at 4pm.

I did eventually get a letter dropping the charges. I repeatedly asked them to check cameras.

No way I would have paid this fine as I knew I was in the right. How many drivers have been frightened and paid up?

This caused me a lot of stress. I hope no-one else gets 'stung' by these fines.

Janet L Jones, Barry.

Tidal Lagoon could be a jewel in the crown

I BELIEVE that the Government should be congratulated on finally giving the green light for the tidal lagoon project at Swansea; personally, I thought it was a no-brainer.

This project will not only be able to generate electricity in an environmentally friendly manner, but will create thousands of badly needed jobs in south Wales and beyond.

I sincerely hope that the benefits of Brexit are entwined in the contractual discussions. These should stipulate that wherever possible, British-made steel is used in the construction.

This would not only make sense, with the Port Talbot steel mill within spitting distance of the construction site, but would add a further environmental benefit rather than importing a commodity that Wales was once famous around the world for producing.

We can all dream. Ade Pitman, Barry.

Birdwatch!

I THOUGHT your readers would like to know that there are some rather rare birds in Barry at the moment – waxwings; they are feeding on a berry tree next to the Civic Offices.

They haven't been seen in Barry for quite a few years, and come to the UK from Scandinavia in the winter occasionally, they make it this far west.

I found them last Wednesday and they've been seen on and off since. They have attracted quite a bit of attention, both from local birders and council staff watching 14 of them from the window! I've attached a photo of one them I counted at 2pm. Amy Schwartz, Barry.



HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 2)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
26 Thur	05.26	8.9	17.47	9.1
27 Fri	06.09	9.3	18.25	9.3
28 Sat	06.45	9.6	19.04	9.5
29 Sun	07.22	9.8	19.40	9.7
30 Mon	07.59	9.9	20.17	9.7
31 Tues	08.37	9.9	20.57	9.6
01 Wed	09.16	9.8	21.33	9.6
02 Thur	09.57	9.5	22.16	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call editorial manager Don John on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220. E-Mail: complaints@ipso.co.uk. Enquiries: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

School '60s reunion is set for June 23



Gaynor Saunders (left) with Glenys Lockley.

A reunion of former pupils of Jenner Park School from the 1960s will take place at the Cherry Orchard on Friday, June 23 (8pm until late).

Glenys Lockley, who moved to Chester in 1970 and still lives there, and Gaynor Saunders, who lives in Barry, are trying to track people down to let them know about it.

Glenys Lockley told The GEM: "The reunion is because it is 50 years since my class left school (1967)."

Girls and boys at-

by GEM REPORTER

ended Jenner Park as infants and juniors, but the boys went on to Cadoxton as seniors while the girls stayed.

Glenys said they had already had some success in tracking people down.

"It is easier finding boys than girls because when the girls get married their names change.

"We already know that we have people coming from Barry, Rhose, Llantwit, Bridgend,

Birmingham, London, New Zealand and France.

"So far we have had 35 responses, but are keen for a lot more.

"Twenty five years ago, we had a reunion at what was then the College Inn and, if memory serves me right, we had about 50 people.

"We are looking forward to meeting up, having a drink and a good natter."

Glenys Lockley can be contacted on 01244 881947. People can also find information on Facebook by searching for 'Jenner Park 1960s'.

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The Glenbrook Inn would like to welcome its **NEW CHEF & GENERAL MANAGER** Andrew.

He has managed his own pubs in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire & Kent, and his team are looking to deliver a first class service to customers by providing **QUALITY ALES** & good value **HOME MADE FRESH FOOD.**

A NEW MENU has been produced utilising where possible produce from local suppliers.

Opening times for the restaurant:

Tuesday to Friday 12pm till 2.30pm and 5.30pm till 8.30pm. Saturday 12pm till 4pm and 5pm till 9pm. Sunday 12pm till 4pm.

The Glenbrook Inn offers the enjoyment of a pub & restaurant with a good range of facilities...

6 NATIONS RUGBY

Andrew and his team will also be offering samples of his type of food during the 6 Nations Rugby which he has labelled **'Food of the Nations'**. This will be entirely free to our customers during the 6 nations games.



WEEKEND OF FOOD

We are offering a fantastic weekend of food on Fri 10 & Sat 11th Feb & Tues 14th with our **'Valentine's Experience'**. We are offering a stylish **2 course at £15.95** and a **3 course at £19.95**. Dishes to note are King Scallops, Smoked Salmon Bubble & Squeak & Lump Fish Roe to start. For mains there are 6 choices including Sea Bass, Beef Wellington & Roast Duck. All Desserts are home made. Pre booking is required.

LUNCHTIME SPECIAL

From Tuesday 31st January we are also offering a **2 and 3 course Lunchtime Special at £9.95 and £12.95** respectively from 12 till 2.30pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.



SUNDAY LUNCHES

Our Sunday Lunches continue to be popular with the introduction of Lamb Shank with homemade minted gravy and Belly Pork stuffed with Savoy cabbage and Smoked Bacon. **We are currently running a 2 course special at £10.95 & 3 courses at £13.95.** Alternative non roast meals are also available on the day - see our 'specials board' including children's menu and vegetarian.

WHAT'S ON AT THE GLENBROOK

- Live music every Saturday & Sunday from February
- New Daily Food menu with special offer 2 & 3 course lunchtime offer
- Valentine's evening Friday 10th & Saturday 11th with live music. Tuesday 14th included.
- Quiz day Sundays from 3pm & on Thursday evening from 8pm including Open The Box!
- Food Theme evenings coming soon!
- Live Premiership Football, Rugby & Boxing matches on Sky & BT sports
- Keep up with what's happening on our internal notice boards & facebook like page 'The Glenbrook Inn'.

We are actively seeking skittles & darts teams. If your team is interested, then please call in or contact us on 01446 747808. Free food provided & subsistence with league subscription.

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THE Highlight Park WI meeting on January 17 was opened by president Barbara Bowring, who summarised the latest news.

Minutes were read and members told that our charity this year is 'Riding to Save Lives' whose volunteers deliver medication, test results, etc to hospitals. They work out of the Fire Station locally.

Details of our contribution to Pooncholi were given and a charming letter from the school was read out. This is a charity-based school in India which we support financially for orphaned girls to be educated and prepared for employment.

Members are looking forward to our annual new year meal at the Six Bells in Penmark at the end of this month.

Our speaker was Debra John, an actress who enjoys dressing the part and speaking in the voice of an Edwardian supervisor maid in a big house somewhere in the country! Owned by Lord Crewe of Cheshire circa 1912, with a staff of around 250, Phyllis guided us through a typical day in the house which didn't seem to



Debra John (left) with WI member Ruth Honeysett.

have an end or a beginning.

She gave tips and inside information on exactly what each occupation entailed. Just in case we were considering taking up employment, Phyllis made it clear that the best job was that of a footman!

Not so good was being taken on as a tweenie, fresh from school learning the ropes, they had to start work at 5am to clean the rooms before the family surfaced and worked until the last person had gone to bed.

The footmen had their uniforms supplied with braiding and silk

stockings and shiny buttons, as a sign of wealth to the owner of the house. Footmen accompanied the family on visits to other houses and enjoyed a good lifestyle.

Our social meeting on January 3 was our first in the New Year.

Meetings: February 21 at 7pm with speaker. Sewing Circle meets every Thursday at 2pm; and the afternoon meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm.

All are welcome at the Highlight Community Centre, near Tesco, Barry. Please come along and join in!

DB

Barry cowboy Pete in DVD launch of *Magnificent Seven*

WHEN the mighty Sony Studios wanted a media 'Western experience day' to help launch the DVD of *The Magnificent Seven* last week, it wasn't to the High Chaparral they looked, but to Barry where the town's own international award winning circus skills trainer and performer, Pete Gamble, is based.

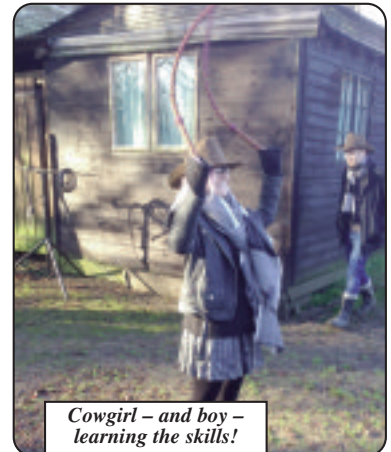
'Pecan Pete' from 'A Handful of Hats'

explained: "I've been very fortunate to be able to compete and perform around the world and was pleased to be asked to put a complete package of western skills together for such a prestigious event that followed the theme of the film.

"Our extensive experience with TV and film work paid off and after much discussion we taught a great bunch of folks from *Good Morning Britain*, MTV, Culture Trip, Radio Times and others how to spin a lasso, throw a rope, shoot and spin a .45, fire a Winchester, throw a knife, crack a whip and throw an axe!

"All this was delivered in the UK's most authentic complete Western movie town, Laredo in Kent.

"If you want to be a cowboy yourself, group and one-to-one training sessions are available in the Vale through www.ahandfulofhats.co.uk."



Cowgirl – and boy – learning the skills!



Pecan Pete with GMB presenter Richard Arnold.



Baby boxes for Barry

TOWN councillor and leader of the Plaid Cymru group Coun Shirley Hodges has called on Barry Town Council to start producing 'free' baby boxes for all newborns in Barry.

Coun Shirley Hodges said: "I think it's an affordable idea – the new Scottish scheme cost around £100 per box.

"I'm sure working with local sponsors and council funds that 'Baby Boxes for Barry' can be achieved, especially by working with the SHOP LOCAL traders.

"I want the contents of the boxes to include useful things for new mothers, sourced from local traders in the town."

She added: "Let's give all the Barry babies an equal start in life. I would like to see the whole council get behind the idea."

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Barry woman in battle for fair pensions

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

Kay continued: "I continued to do this for many years. At one point I had three jobs, all of which were low paid but fitted in with family life.

"I was not given the luxury of a company pension because most of my employers offered a zero hours contract even though I continued to pay my tax and national insurance in the knowledge that it was contributing towards a pension which I had always been given to believe would be returned to me at the age of 60."

SIX MORE YEARS
But now Kay is having to wait a further six years until she gets her pension and feels cheated by the system. "I was given just three years' notice in 2012 of the changes to my pension age. This was three months after I was finally able to set up a company pension, but unfortunately also three months before I was made redundant from a post I had held for 13 years."

Kay, who has been unable to find a suitable job, is upset that the 'pension goalposts' have been moved so late.

"I will have been denied £46,800 in pension payments by the time I reach 66 and feel very strongly that fair transitional arrangements should be in place to help us in our plight."

Many women still don't realise that they will have to wait longer for their state pension. Kay was recently talking to a woman on the checkouts at Barry Asda who did not realise what was happening.

Kay's mother, grandmother and great-grandmother all died before 60 years of age, and were denied the benefits of paying into



Jane Hutt (second from left) met WASPI campaigners Kay Clarke, Celia Jones and Sue Jarman at the Senedd recently.

the system – now she thinks the same is happening to her!

In recent months, she and other campaigners have met Labour AM Jane Hutt, the Vale's Tory MP, Alun Cairns, and taken the campaign to the Senedd and the Houses of Parliament.

On the day of the Budget, March 8, Kay will join other women in another protest at the Houses of Parliament.

"We're organising a coach to go up and I will be dressing as a suffragette. Last time we went were very ladylike, but this time we will have our saucapans, ladies and whistles!"

Jane Hutt has met WASPI campaigners, including Kay, and said: "I was delighted to invite Kay Clarke from Barry with WASPI campaigners to meet with me at the Senedd. The WASPI campaigners have been to Westminster to put their case and have support from across Wales and the UK."

Among WASPI's proposals are a 'bridging' pension to provide an income for women from the age of 60 until the new state pension age. They believe any arrangement should not be means-tested and should include compensation for losses for those women who have already reached their SPA.

For women interested in the campaign, more is available at: www.waspi.co.uk.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE EVERYTHING A LOCAL PUB SHOULD BE...

THE Glenbrook Inn, established in 1982 is a free house and restaurant with landscaped gardens, large beer garden, specifically-designed play area with purpose-made smoking area and 50-space car park facility.

It brings people together to enjoy fine beverages and food all with the label of good value. There is a busy bar which enjoys the benefit of large screens for popular sport coverage, and there's a new open/closed function room which lends itself to great live music, big sporting events and functions like christenings, wakes and small weddings.

The bar is the hub of community life, but equally when we step away from this room, a few steps away is the lounge/restaurant, which provides comfort, easy conversation and dining.

At the Glenbrook Inn, we have always provided customers with what they

want, including a range of quality lagers, craft, cask and cream flow beers. The latest choice in standard and fruit ciders on draught and in bottle. There is something for everyone here! We offer five different grape varieties of house wine here too!

When it comes to service, we have a great team of experienced staff, who are friendly and knowledgeable about the food and drinks we have to offer.

We cater for families too, with both adult and children's menus, plus the beauty of great outside facilities and a play area, within a secure protected perimeter fenced area, so you can feel comfortable over their safety. Food is also served to these outside areas.

The layout of the pub also allows for a choice of functions, ie wakes, birthday parties, christenings or weddings. Whether it be in the comfort/quietness of our lounge area, the more lively environment of the bar with open function area, or a separate sound-proofed room, the choice is yours!

Our sound-proofed room is ideal for business or social groups who want an element of privacy. The function room is available to hire throughout the week.

The Glenbrook also offers throughout the week poker evenings, pool table, skittles and darts, and we have active teams here. Should you be interested and want to join, please ask a member of staff, or call us. We are always happy to oblige.

This pub is a great place to meet and enjoy good company which balances the expectations of all ages, and typifies 'Everything a local pub should be.'

Barry supermarket team raises funds in memory of colleague



STAFF at Tesco on Stirling Road in Barry recently held a collection, raising £169 in memory of Jane Lake, who died in September last year, within months of receiving a diagnosis of liver, lymph node and lung cancer.

They donated the cash to Marie Curie, which provides end-of-life care for people living with terminal illness and their families from the hospice in Penarth.

It was handed over by

Anna Hocking, Mathew Green, Adele Stephenson and Becky Wright.

Adele explained: "We were doing a collection, and Jane did have Marie Curie nursing care at home, so we decided to give the money to the charity. We have a few colleagues who are currently living with cancer."

Clare Wright, community fundraiser, said: "A huge thank you to the team at Tesco in Barry, whose funds will help Marie Curie provide care and support at our Cardiff and the Vale Hospice."

The Barry Tesco store team that raised funds in memory of colleague Jane Lake, who sadly passed away last year.

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High Street traders host a jazz evening

THE High Street Traders are hosting a jazz evening at The Borough Arms on Saturday, January 28, with the Jon Crespo Quartet hitting the stage at 9pm, on what promises to be a great night of live music.

The jazz evening will be the first of many events and initiatives hosted by the traders with the aim of promoting the shopping area and raising vital funds for on-going community focussed events, such as the artisan markets, Easter Parade and Christmas Lights.

Leanne Wood, chairperson of the High Street Traders Association said: "We're delighted to be hosting such a

top notch jazz quartet, and would like to extend our gratitude to both them and the venue for their support.

"The High Street shopping area was recently voted the fifth best independent shopping area in the whole of the UK, so we welcome the opportunity to get together and celebrate this amazing accolade, whilst ensuring the future of the community events that High Street has become well known for."

Tickets for the evening are available to the public at £5 each and can be purchased from The Borough Arms, Balance the Body and Food for Thought Deli.

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GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANKS

MY, oh my! Mr Harper's letter (The GEM, January 12) stretches credulity! His argument is based on two premises.

Firstly, that foodbanks are claiming gift aid for cash donations that they receive: There may be some small cash donations to this and other registered charity foodbanks, but the vast part of their 'income' is based on food donations from members of the public and the retail trade. As far as I know, the retail trade cannot claim tax losses or write-offs on food donated to foodbanks.

There is no gift aid claimable on food donations by the charity and, as far as I know, the Government (and the Charity Commission) have no intention of changing the law to allow 'in kind' donations to qualify for gift aid.

Secondly, he states - "charities recognised by HMRC..." Charities are not recognised by HMRC, they are recognised and controlled by the Charity Commission, and a charity has to file its audited accounts with the Charity Commission, not HMRC.

It is for the Charity Commission to investigate the operation of any registered charity, and it operates under its own rules. HMRC is at least once removed from the operation of any registered charity.

For Mr Harper to accuse the writer of the article and The GEM of political bias with such thin arguments, beggars belief and is on a par with the Department of Work and Pensions saying that their staff do not have 'sanctions' targets that force people onto the largesse of foodbanks.

If Mr Harper's argument is accepted, then we are all supported by the UK Government, as we all (legitimately) claim tax allowances from HMRC and, therefore, we are all supported by the Government.

In response to the question raised by The GEM, the answer is unequivocally no. If they want to be precise, they should do no more than check and state whether the organisation is formally registered with the Charity Commission and has to abide by its rules.

David Kennett,
Barry.

Ramblers go on a three parks hike

FOURTEEN walkers, including leader Sylvia, from Penarth and District Ramblers, set off from Cogan on a beautiful sunny but frosty morning making pavements extremely slippery, to explore three of Cardiff's well known parks prior to a circumnavigation of Cardiff Bay.

From Pontcanna Fields and Blackweir, a footbridge over the River Taff brought them to the Secret Garden café in Bute Park, with its lovely gardens and pretty carved trees for lunch, in surprisingly warm sunshine.

Continuing south past the famous Principality Stadium and with views across to Central Square, where the new headquarters of BBC Cymru Wales are under construction, Taff Mead Embankment led them across the Clarence Road Bridge into Hamadryad Park.

Passing under the A4232 for the last time and entering the Wetlands, then continuing through Mount Stuart Square and the very busy Mermaid Quay, a quick march past all the sights of Cardiff Bay led them across the Cardiff Barrage and on past the Custom House for their return along pavements at Penarth Portway, Terra Nova Way and Marconi Avenue.

On January 28, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile hard walk in the Abercarn area; contact Rachel on 01446 410545. To follow the group log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Squadron reunion
372 (Barry) Air Training Corps will hold a reunion on Saturday, January 28 in the Market Street club at 7pm.

If you are an ex-cadet, male or female, or have been associated with the squadron, please come along and join us.

We are also celebrating the refurbishment of our headquarters behind the Memorial Hall, on Gladstone Road. This will officially open in May.

For further information concerning the reunion, search on Facebook: 372 of 1968; or email cnsstrom5@aol.com.

glamorgan-gem.co.uk

News update from Barry Camera Club

DECEMBER'S programme at Barry Camera Club started with a visit from Tim Knifton, a widely-exhibited travel photographer.

Tim specialises in recording derelict and abandoned buildings and machinery and his talk featured a visit to Italy.

It started with images of asylums and hospitals, followed by industrial units.

The evening included images of churches, schools, residential buildings and finally shots of dilapidated Alfa Romeos.

The club has welcomed Royston Packer of Pembroke, who is best known for his outstanding wildlife work, who gave a varied presentation entitled 'My Journey Through India'.

We were treated to some of the best travel photography we have seen for many years, featuring a clever combination of still and audio-visual work.

Roy brought out the warmth of the people through their rituals and gave us a fascinating insight into life in modern day India.

John Harvey, another guest speaker, presented a talk entitled 'A Judge's Eye'.

As expected, John stressed the importance of composition, exposure, focus selection and presentation quality but above all the pictorial content.

This, unfortunately, is the area in which most members tend to fall foul of the judge's opinion.

We concluded our December programme with our monthly competition night. The judge was Dave Russell from Cardiff Camera Club, who gave a

detailed and very thorough critique to every shot.

He awarded marks and prizes as follows:

Monochrome print: This was a closely-fought contest, Glenn Porter coming out on top with 20 points for his 'A Cold Penarth Pier'. In second place with 19 points was Barbra Archdale-Smith, with her print 'Six' and Mike Lewis gained third place with a shot entitled 'The Rowing Boat'.

Colour print: First prize and 20 points went to Brian Trego, for 'Holding Hands In The Spray'. Second place and 19 points went to Barbra Archdale-Smith for her 'Inner City, Rome'. Brian scored again as third place winner with 18 points for a print entitled 'Incoming Estuary Tide'.

The **projected Image** section was, as usual, the most contested section. The winner with 20 points was Gareth Williams with his 'Fallen Tree'. Second prize and 19 points was awarded to Barbra Archdale-Smith for 'Regatta' and third prize with 18 points was another success for Gareth with his 'Cecil Not Forgotten'.

Throughout 2017, we have a full programme of talks, demonstrations, photographic expeditions, competitions and inter-club battles planned. New members will be made welcome.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX. For more information, visit website www.barrycameraclub.co.uk and check out our Facebook page.

RB

Langlands Road 'will reopen in late March'

LANGLANDS ROAD, in Palmerston, which has been closed since the end of September, should be open again by the end of March.

Work is currently going ahead on a flood prevention scheme.

Coun Gwyn John, the Vale cabinet member for visible services, explained that the project was aimed at protecting local homes and schools, and thanked local people for their patience.

"The council has been promoting a scheme to protect over 200 homes and three schools from flooding in the Coldbrook catchment since the devastation caused by flash flooding in July 2007.

"Construction work on this scale will inevitably cause some disruption to residents and we would thank those affected for their patience as we work to protect the wider community from flooding.

"The works at the junction of Langlands Road and Coldbrook Road East are required to complete the installation of a large pipe in Solent Road.

"Work is also under way to divert a water main in Coldbrook Road East to enable further phases of the scheme to be constructed.

"Due to a combination of poor ground conditions and a

significant number of utility services in the area (such as gas and sewer pipes), the completion of this phase of the scheme has been delayed.

"It is anticipated that Langlands Road will reopen by the end of March 2017."

Coun John said the council had been in touch with local people.

"Residents in the surrounding area have been advised of the timescales anticipated for the works and the contractor's community liaison co-ordinator will continue to provide updates if there are further changes to the duration of works.

"Further information on the scheme is available at www.coldbrookflood.co.uk. The Council is working closely with the scheme Contractor, Dyer & Butler, to minimise the impact on local residents as this significant construction scheme progresses."



The excavation work at the junction of Langlands Road and Coldbrook Road East is required to complete the installation of a large pipe in Solent Road.

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Before Sainsbury's store moved in to Park Crescent in Barry, a petition was organised because local residents were concerned about how busy the traffic was by the roundabout and at the top of Park Crescent road opposite Romilly Primary School.

Is there a local road safety issue you would like to highlight?



In Barry the junction at Trinity Street onto Jenner Road is extended to give motorists joining the main road a better view of the moving traffic. There are double yellow lines around the corners to ensure cars don't cut down the field of vision.

THE latest available figures for national road deaths shows a reduction in fatalities – but the Department for Transport points out that discernible trends can only be judged over a number of years because there are so many factors at play.

One of the main topics of concern flagged up by residents in the Vale to The GEM is road safety.

Nationally there were 1,732 reported road deaths in 2015, a decrease of two per cent compared with 2014. This is the second lowest annual total on record after 2013.

There were 45 per cent fewer fatalities in 2015 than a decade earlier in 2006. There was a total of 186,209 casualties of all severities in 2015, around four per cent lower than in 2014 and the second lowest level on record.

Vehicle traffic levels increased by 1.6 per cent between 2014 and 2015.

Do you think more could be done to prevent accidents? Perhaps you favour a lower speed limit somewhere. Should there be more 20 mph speed limits in towns? Is there a location on the road network that particularly concerns you? There may be an area that you think has been improved in terms of safety. Please send in your views to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

'Limited help for foodbanks'

I WAS so pleased to read the Rev Mike Holmes' letter last week, in which he clarified the very limited help Government offer the foodbanks.

Surely, the more serious issue is why, as the fifth largest economy in the world, we need foodbanks at all?

Recently, I took part in a small fundraising event, as having seen Ken Loach's film /

Daniel Blake, I was deeply saddened by the kind of society we live in (i.e. the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer).

Many people are being sanctioned, with their benefits stopped, as they search for jobs. I know of a young man who waited eight months (as he was wrongly accused of co-habiting).

The whole process of using foodbanks is humiliating (people have to be referred) and

cannot just drop in.

Yes, I too hope Mr Harper never needs to use the foodbanks. Mr Harper – please try and see the film / Daniel Blake. I'm sure you would find it worthwhile.

Again, thanks a million to all the volunteers and hard-working people who are doing such a valuable job.

Ms Jane Walker, Barry.

MP signs Holocaust Educational Trust Book

LAST week, Welsh Secretary Alun Cairns MP, signed the Holocaust Educational Trust's Book of Commitment, pledging commitment to Holocaust Memorial Day and honouring the millions who were murdered, as well as paying tribute to the "extraordinary survivors who work tirelessly to educate young people."

Friday, January 27 will mark the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, site of the largest mass murder in history during World War 2.

Events are being held by schools, faith groups and community organisations across the country, to remember all the millions of victims and subsequent genocides. The theme for this year's commemorations is 'How Can Life Go On?'

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LOCAL WILDLIFE EXPERTS INSIST... 'Swansea Bay energy scheme must be closely monitored'

THE massive Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon energy project has received the cautious support of local wildlife trusts – but only if comprehensive research into the likely effects on bird and fish habitats is completed first.

by PHILIP IRWIN

Supporters of the Swansea Tidal Lagoon scheme were encouraged by the recent report by former energy Minister Charles Hendry, although there are many hurdles still to be cleared – not least the price tag. The Wildlife Trusts in Wales welcomed remarks in the Hendry Review that any tidal lagoon development in the UK should be subject to strict monitoring of any impacts on the marine

environment, and adequate compensation for any resulting damage.

One concern of the Wildlife Trusts in Wales, of course, is bird habitats – and the trusts agree that there is not a problem with Swansea.

However, the Hendry Review points out that a tidal lagoon in the Cardiff area would raise serious concerns about the impact of the proposed tidal lagoon in Swansea Bay on fish, particularly salmon and sea trout.

"Modelling of the impacts on fish is now recognised as unreliable and flawed.

The Wildlife Trusts believe that no tidal lagoon developments should be consented until substantial research has been completed into the environmental impacts of this new technology."

Wildlife Trusts in Wales is the representative body for the six local Wildlife Trusts in Wales. Its role is to protect wildlife and wild places for future generations. Visit www.wtwales.org for more information.

"The development of renewable energy should

not be at the expense of biodiversity.

The State of Nature report showed 60 per cent of our wildlife is in decline. We cannot accept further loss of important habitats or species."

The spokesperson continued: "Natural Resources Wales have raised serious concerns about the impact of the proposed tidal lagoon in Swansea Bay on fish, particularly salmon and sea trout.

"Modelling of the impacts on fish is now recognised as unreliable and flawed.

The Wildlife Trusts believe that no tidal lagoon developments should be consented until substantial research has been completed into the environmental impacts of this new technology."

Wildlife Trusts in Wales is the representative body for the six local Wildlife Trusts in Wales.

Its role is to protect wildlife and wild places for future generations. Visit www.wtwales.org for more information.

Vale Public Services Board publishes wellbeing assessment

FOLLOWING a Services Board, increasing levels of "successful engagement campaign", and significant data-gathering, the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board (PSB) has published its draft Well-being Assessment.

It considers the wellbeing of the Vale as a whole, and presents a "real opportunity" to help the PSB know more about the communities and people that shape the Vale.

Coun Neil Moore, chair of the Public

Services Board, explained: "This assessment is a valuable resource – one that enables partners across the public sector to work together to improve the wellbeing of our local communities – not only now, but also for future generations."

The assessment has been informed by a wealth of data and engagement activities, including the 'Let's Talk about Wellbeing' survey.

The assessment highlighted a variety of areas that affect life in the Vale, many of which have been identified as positive: a diverse natural environment,

increasing levels of tourism and lower crime levels than other areas in Wales are some of the strengths included in the assessment.

As a whole, the assessment looked at economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being.

The assessment has also identified some areas where improvements could be made. These include tackling inequalities and improving how the PSB engages with local communities. The PSB is already starting to consider what it can do to make a difference in these areas.

A spokesperson said: "The PSB now wishes to find out what residents think about the draft assessment. This can be read at: www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/consultation/Lets-Talk-about-Well-being.aspx.

"A short questionnaire can be completed on the same page if residents wish to share their views on the findings

"Alternatively, they can express their thoughts through a Facebook conversation that will be taking place over the next few weeks."

Could you be a 'FAN' of Friends and Neighbours

FRIENDS and Neighbours (FAN) is a local charity that brings people of all ages together in the spirit of friendship.

A spokeswoman said: "If you enjoy meeting others, or are feeling lonely, you will be sure of finding a warm welcome."

"FAN groups create a sense of community and are a wonderful network. It's a great opportunity for local people to meet newcomers."

She continued: "Our groups meet weekly, and details are on www.thefancharity.org. There is a new group in Barry on Wednesdays, 11.30am, First Floor Barry Library, King Square, CF63 4RW. There is no charge. In Bridgend, on Mondays at 11.45am, a group meets at the Zone Community Café, 46-48 Dunraven Place, CF31 1JB."



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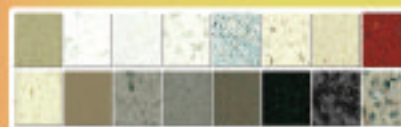
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JEFF JAMES REFLECTS ON 38 YEARS' SERVICE FOR RHOOSE AND VALE

LAST week The GEM broke the news that long-standing Rhooose councillor and former Vale Council Leader Jeff James had decided to retire.

He will bow out in April after 38 years' service to the local community as a councillor, seven years as Vale Leader and a year as Vale Mayor from 1990-91.

Now seemed a good time to ask him to reflect on his service and the challenges faced by local authorities which are often under extreme pressures.

Jeff moved to Rhooose from Cowbridge at the age of 12 and he has lived in the village for 60 years.

He explained that the decision on whether to continue or not as a councillor had been on his mind for some time.

"I started thinking about it in the summer last year and began talking it over with my wife Roxana.

"To have continued for another five years would have been a long time and I thought 'no, it's best not to'.

"I'm relieved it's in the public domain, and I was touched by Alun's tribute."

The Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns MP, had described him as "a local institution" and "one of the wisest and most able councillors to have served in the Vale".

Jeff was first elected at the age of 34 and went on to lead the Vale Council, following a crisis that had threatened its future.

He said: "I was elected to the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council in 1979. The first meeting was in the old town hall in Barry on King Square.

"It was too small for the full council, but big enough for committee meetings. The full council

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

met at the Memorial Hall.

"The new Civic Offices (on Holton Road) were opened in 1981 by Princess Anne and became the headquarters of the Vale of Glamorgan Council – they were purpose built, and equipped with a chamber, committee rooms and civic offices."

Jeff said that being a member of an opposition party on a council is always a challenge because people sometimes think you have the authority to act on a particular issue – but power resides with the ruling party.

He said he never minded members of the public voicing robust opinions to him.

"It's a free country and people can speak their minds."

After 20 years as a councillor, he became Leader of the Vale Council.

"I took over as leader in May 1999 and it was a challenging time. The district auditor had criticised the council in a damning report."

The previous Vale Council Leader had been forced to leave.

Jeff said: "The first thing I had to do was address what was in the report – we needed to tackle things head on. I had to set up an investigating committee to find out how things had been managed. I also had to dispense with the services of the chief executive."

He set about improving the performance of the council and rebuilding its reputation.

He said that when councils face a squeeze from central government the options are limited: increase council tax, become more efficient, or reduce

services.

Sometimes people see council reserves running into millions of pounds, and wonder why those in charge don't dip into them for a particular project.

Jeff explained that some of the reserves are held in case of crisis and others are actually earmarked for a future commitment.

He does think that reserves could generate more income in a safe way if a more creative approach was undertaken, pointing out that a return of 2 per cent rather than .05 per cent would be significant.

"It does not have to be too risky. The Assembly Government could advise on this."

He said it was a good thing that Vale Council meetings continue to be conducted in a courteous manner.

"I think by and large there is respect for other people's views and debate is allowed to happen.

"Even on controversial topics, the banter is good-humoured and that's a good thing."

His numerous roles in Rhooose include being chair of the local history society and chair of Rhooose Community Hall and he will remain very active in the community.

He is keen to see the Rhooose library group, which already has 20 volunteers, get off to a flying start.

He said that "being patient and prepared to listen" was a key skill for any councillor.

"If people had a complaint they were able to tell me straight and I would do my best to sort it out.

"You can't be a councillor for an area for 38 years without the goodwill, good humour and support of people, and I never took that for granted."

So will there be a tear in his eye when he attends his final council meeting in April?

"I try not to be emotional, but maybe at the last meeting there will be a tug at the heartstrings."

PACT meetings

GIBBONSDOWN – meet your local neighbourhood team at Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, every Monday between 10am and 12 noon.

BUTTRILLS PACT on Thursday, January 26 at 6.30pm at Barry Town Council Offices (at the side of the Memorial Hall).



Councillor Jeff James of Rhooose.

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NEW YEAR WELL UNDER WAY...

THE first meeting of Friends and Neighbours for 2017 went off well at Beryl Road Pioneer Hall.

It was great to see over 50 members enjoying themselves, chatting together and catching up, and there was a wonderful atmosphere.

Gay opened up the meeting by wishing them all a happy New Year and hoped they had all enjoyed their Christmas party, held at Brynhill Golf Club.

Feedback from the Christmas party was given and

everyone had a fabulous time and had enjoyed their visit to New Theatre to see *Peter Pan*. Members bring their annual subs.

Members were given information on a busy 2017 programme, including a forthcoming lunch at the Glamorgan suite at Barry College, and a Taste of Wales coach trip with a visit to the Abergavenny and Brecon canal. Members are looking forward to their next meeting with Owls 4U.

For further information contact Gay Ffield on 01446 400044.

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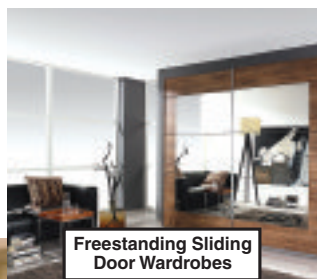
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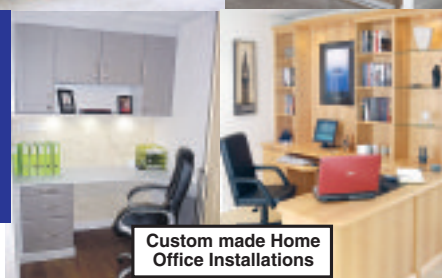


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Mysterious Vale of Glamorgan

DID you know that the largest capstone in Britain is situated in a field at Tinkinswood, near St Nicholas, and that this impressive burial chamber dates to around 3500 BC and was in use until 2000BC?

Did you know that Kenfig Pool, a national nature reserve of some 70 acres, is the second largest freshwater lake in south Wales after Llangorse? A legend is connected with Kenfig, which is situated in the sand dunes.

In ancient times, a local chieftain wronged and wounded a prince who, with his dying breath, pronounced a curse on his foe.

Just one of the tales in Chris Barber's fascinating *Mysterious Wales* (published by Amberley Books at £14.99) a land haunted by its own past, with a treasure trove of

beautiful and magical places – some rarely visited.

This book guides explorers to prehistoric megaliths, remote stone circles, burial chambers, secret caves, lonely lakes and 'bottomless' pools, and some of these magical places can be found in the Vale; such as the Cross of St Iltyd, erected to commemorate two holy men at St Iltyd's Church in Llantwit Major and the Cross of Irbic, at Llandough.

With chapters on wizards, witches, fairies, saints and sanctuaries and much more, this well-illustrated book is a jolly good read.

For children: *The Crystal Fountain* by David Morgan Williams and illustrated by Laura Jenkins, published by yLofa at £5.99. It is the story of Capra, an ibex who lives in the mountains of Ethiopia, and her friends Omo and Asha, and is a delight.

BRIAN LEE

ENFYYS CRAFT FAIR

THE first Enfyys craft fair of 2017 will take place on Saturday, February 4 at the St Ffrancis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm; free admission.

Last month's charity raffle raised £70 for Nell's Point coastal Watch. Unfortunately Cyril, who is in charge of the raffle, is too poorly at present to continue.

For more information, contact Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

BALLET PHOTO RETRACES THOSE CHILDHOOD STEPS

THE article and photograph of young ballet dancers on page 11 of last week's GEM awakened memories of the summer of 1980, writes ANDY JOHNSTONE.

Moya Vahey, founder of the School of Russian Classical Ballet in Cowbridge, supplied The GEM with a black-and-white printed photograph of a group of girls waiting to sit their Federation of Russian Classical Ballet examination.

Fiona Breen identified herself in the photo, and since then, the parents of another young dancer, Ellen Owen (née Winnard) made contact with the paper.

Ellen, then aged five, is on the far right of the photograph. Her parents,



Sian and Geoff – who still live in the area – explained what had happened to the budding ballerina since 1980.

"She didn't keep dancing up," began her father, once a teacher at Y Bont Faen School, "but remembers the classes and Miss Vahey very well."

Although Ellen did not keep up her dancing,

she has been a teacher for some years.

Now living in Crickhowell, the mother of three boys – none of whom, report Sian and Geoff, are aspiring Billy Elliots – teaches Welsh in the Modern Languages Faculty of Christ College, Brecon.

Her mother said: "We were so pleased to learn that Moya was still teaching in Cowbridge."

"Ballet is a wonderful thing for children to learn."

The photograph also prompted Justine Bettley (née Davies) to contact The GEM.

Justine (back row, top right) wrote: "I still live in the Vale, in Llanfarcarn, having moved back to the area in 2005 after 20 years away."

"My younger sister was Corinne Davies (first full row, fourth from the left with a short

bob), and she now lives in Edinburgh. We were aged seven and five in July 1980."

Justine added: "We attended Y Bont Faen, and also went to ballet school from 1980 to 1984 in Cowbridge and in Llanblethian village hall, before moving to Scotland."

Justine also spotted classmate Hannah Jones, to the right of her sister, in the photograph.

"The highlight of attending the Moya Vahey School of Russian Ballet," said Justine, "was the annual show put on in Cowbridge Town Hall."

If you recognise any of the pupils in the photo, please send your reminiscences to editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk.

To read the earlier article online, visit: <http://bit.ly/MoyaVahey>

'Annie's legacy' remembered at Welsh Assembly

'CANCER Patients' Voices Wales' recently held its second event in the National Assembly for Wales, as it continue its work to make sure cancer diagnosis, treatment, support and survival is the best it can be for patients in Wales.

It was sponsored by South Wales Central AM and Leader of the Welsh Conservatives Andrew RT Davies, who opened proceedings before a cross-party panel discussion took place.

"Last year's event was organised by cancer sufferer Annie Mulholland, who sadly passed away in May," Mr Davies said.

"Annie was a dedicated campaigner for better access to cancer drugs in Wales, after discovering she needed to move to London to

have access to life-prolonging treatments."

Mr Davies described the campaign as 'Annie's legacy', and said that her memory would always be with all of those present. Her husband Martin and daughter Rebecca attended the event, and Rebecca gave her personal perspective.

Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-Being and Sport, Vaughan Gething, also spoke on behalf of the Welsh Government.

Mr Davies said: "Annie Mulholland was a truly inspirational individual who despite her own personal illness, worked incredibly hard to improve access to life prolonging treatments for cancer sufferers in Wales."

"She made sure cancer patients' voices are heard in Wales, and the campaign will continue to honour her legacy. It was pleasing to see politicians of all colours and persuasions attend and take part as we work together to beat cancer."

LIFT (Life Is For Today)

The LIFT group offers friendship and support to those affected by breast cancer.

It meets in Cowbridge once a fortnight, between 10am and 1pm, for relaxation therapies and from 2pm to 4pm for other activities, such as speakers or trips.

"Come and join us – bring a friend, for friendly, supportive, and confidential get-togethers."

For more information, call Anne on 01446 772843, or Judith on 01446 794176."

Menter Bro

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www.comisiynyddygymraeg.cymru/hybu/cy/canllawiau/Pages/amdani%21.aspx.

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Do you like your sports and want to learn and use Welsh?

A GREAT resource has become available from the Welsh Language Commissioner:

Welsh: give it a go! Using the Welsh language in sport.

A practical pack is available for sports clubs and associations on how to develop a bilingual, Welsh and English approach to sports activities in Wales.

The pack is based on research and feedback from sports bodies across Wales.

To view an interactive version of the pack, view this link: www.comisiynyddygymraeg.cymru/hybu/cy/canllawiau/Pages/amdani%21.aspx.

Take a look at the videos that are part of the pack and you can download posters and flashcards.

If you'd like a print version through the post, contact: hybu@welshlanguagecommissioner.wales.

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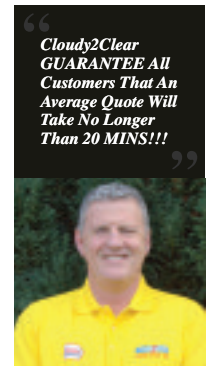
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Volunteering fair a BIG success!



OVER 300 people were welcomed at the Memo Art Centre in Barry on January 18 and were welcomed by 56 volunteering providers looking to recruit more volunteers.

Attendees were spoilt for choice at Glamorgan Voluntary Services' (GVS) BIG volunteering fair, which showcased opportunities available in the community.

Kath Fisher of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice charity said: "We were delighted to be invited to the BIG volunteering fair by GVS and had a fantastic day seeing well over 40 individuals with a 25 per cent sign-up."

"It was well worth us

coming today"

If you are considering volunteering, or your community organisation would benefit from GVS' free

volunteer recruitment services, contact GVS on 01446 741706, E-mail: enquiries@gvs.wales; website:

MS

FocusBarry AGM

DEPUTY Inspector Bryn Glennie's visit to the FocusBARRY meeting last week provided clarity to the subject of domestic abuse and outlined the associated White Ribbon Campaign.

He explained that vulnerable women are almost always the target of abusive men and that of the 30,000 incidents reported annually to the police in south Wales, 2,500 occurred in the Vale. He produced figures relating to victims and perpetrators in Barry as well as answering supporters' questions on policing in the town.

It is hoped that improvements in procedures and a more sensitive and enlightened understanding by the police and supporting agencies will encourage more victims of domestic abuse to come forward.

DI Glennie's presentation was well received by a smaller than usual meeting of the group.

DH

A guided tour of Westminster...

In my role as the Member of Parliament for the Vale I have had the privilege of welcoming many local people and community groups to Westminster and providing tours of the Houses of Parliament.

Over the past couple of years, I have been organising 'coach tours' from the Vale to Parliament to give as many constituents as possible the opportunity to come. The next such departure takes place on Friday next week (February 4) and there are still spaces available.

The Palace of Westminster is truly fascinating, and visitors from the Vale will be provided a guided tour of all its important parts including the Houses of Commons and House of Lords debating chambers.

Following the tour, I will hold a question-and-answer session in the grand committee room about how Parliament works and my experiences on the



Welsh Secretary
ALUN CAIRNS
reports to
GEM readers

of the nation. The chance to see it as a living, working and venerable institution in its traditional home is one that should be taken.

The tour taking place next Friday is departing from Cowbridge at 9am and is open to all residents of the Vale.

Upon arrival visitors will have the chance to explore the 1,000-year-old Westminster Hall and use its Jubilee café prior to the full tour with an experienced guide.

Seeing the famous green benches for the first time, the magnificent Royal Gallery and the ornate thrones in the House of Lords is an experience not easily forgotten.

So please do not hesitate to call my constituency office to book your place on the tour on 01446 403814. Alternatively, email me on alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk.

If you have any friends or family who might be interested in coming please do let them know.

I look forward to seeing you in Westminster very soon.

green benches.

Due to the need for renovation and restoration, the parliamentary estate is likely to close in the near future with MPs sitting in a temporary chamber elsewhere for at least six years.

The trips I am organising from the Vale represent one of the last opportunities to visit buildings at the heart of history before this closure.

It is difficult to describe the sense of history in the Palace, and impossible to overstate Parliament's significance in our island story.

Indeed, following our departure from the European Union, Parliament will play an even bigger role in determining the future

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PORTHCAWL BAND'S SECOND CD CONFIRMS THEIR PROMISE

PORTHCAWL band One Time Alive have just released their second CD, entitled *Five Star Vending Machine*, following on from their very strong debut album, *Sugar Train*.

They talk about difficult second albums, but that doesn't seem to apply here. It hasn't taken long and it's a CD that has legs – songs still sound fresh after the third or fourth listen – always a good sign.

However, as for me the strength of *Sugar Train* was the sheer versatility of this three piece – Ed Rees (bass), Jack Parry (lead and rhythm guitars) and Sarah Griffiths (percussion) – the first four tracks on the new CD set off some alarm bells.

They all share a similar feel, with Jack

Parry's guitar having an edgy, rough sound, and with Ed Rees and Sarah Griffiths driving things on with real aggression, it seemed that they were chasing a high energy live sound, rather than developing their eclecticism.

Nothing wrong with any of those opening four tracks, but they were a touch similar. 'Sister Soul' is the opener, and it's a bassist's show off track with Ed taking the vocal as well.

Tracks two and three rattle along in similar vein and, although track four, 'Fathoms', starts slow, you know it's just building up. 'Teen Spirit' style, to the crashing chords and the big finish.

However, from track five on, called 'Round About Way', the band from the first album reasserts itself. This one's an acoustic number, with Ed's vocals and his trademark

Review by PHILIP IRWIN



lyrics – he has an ear for a phrase that jumps out at you.

Up next is 'All Things' – with an intro rather like Joe Jackson's 'Different For Girls' – that carries on with a moody feel, before a big finish.

Track seven is a bouncy little number where the band share the vocals, and track eight, 'Baby' is my favourite –

an out and out blues, with Jack Parry really showing off his guitar expertise. Jack could probably insist on a guitar solo in every song, but you get the feeling that One Time

Alive are a real band, and all the better for it.

The final track, 'The Parade' has Sarah singing lead vocals, and that's another string to the band's versatility bow.

I skimmed through the album for a friend while giving him a lift. He knows his indie music and said it was hard to believe it was the same band, playing such different songs.

It's good to see a Porthcawl band making original music and getting it out there on CD and via iTunes. The CD is available from SUSSIED in Porthcawl (just up from the Bandstand, James Street CF36 3BG). For more on the band, go to <http://www.onetimealive.com/>

Hacksaw Ridge is a remarkable tale delivered in hackneyed way...

MEL Gibson has been seemingly serving Hollywood penance for years.

Supposedly blacklisted after his various antics, Gibson has sought refuge in the low-key, genre pieces like *How I Spent My Summer Vacation*, *Machete Kills* and *The Expendables 3*, with only last year's *Blood Father* really registering.

However, Gibson has been keen to get back behind the camera, and this week sees the release of his fifth feature film, *Hacksaw Ridge*.

It tells the true story of Desmond Doss (Andrew Garfield), who signs up to join the army in World War Two, despite being unwilling to use a rifle and take another man's life.

Viewed with suspicion, Doss battles his way to serving as a medic in the battle against the Japanese at Hacksaw Ridge – but will he survive the rigours and tortures of war without bearing arms...

The story of Desmond Doss is truly remarkable; maintaining his moral and religious strength (he was a Seventh-day Adventist who would not work Saturdays) while also believing in his duty to his country, Doss's story is most certainly one worthy of being told on the cinema screen.

Yet, however compelling a tale it is, brought to life by Mel Gibson, it is also a strangely unbalanced film, one that takes great pains to set out the debate about war, how belief and duty can go together and the sacrifices made by those to keep us safe, yet also takes great relish in depicting those sacrifices and battles. It's part high-octane action film, part thoughtful piece on the ravages of war on loved ones and friends, yet it never truly feels like the two elements reconcile into a satisfying whole.

To use a sporting cliché it's a film of two halves; the first establishes the character of Doss from an early age (two incidents in particular asserting his desire to not take a life).

We meet his father (a strong turn from Hugo Weaving), a man broken down by the torment of the great war and losing



by **GARETH JAMIESON**
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

since Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*. Running at nearly an hour, it ebbs and flows, pushing the emotional buttons as well as delivering spectacle, particularly come the conclusion as Doss' heroics come to light, highlighting how talented and mesmeric Gibson the director can be.

Andrew Garfield's performance as Doss is strong, his dignity, desire to help and belief in what he deems to be right making him an interesting, if inflexible, character.

The British actor essays the role with a naïve charm, yet with a steely resolve that anchors the film, while the likes of the aforementioned Vaughn and Weaving (whose heartbreaking turn is very good) along with Sam Worthington and Teresa Palmer (as Doss' girlfriend) all offer up something.

It's the curse of the 'based on a true story' film that making something that lives up to the enormity of the story being told is always tricky – *Hacksaw Ridge*, for all of Mel Gibson's balletic and brutal action, doesn't quite manage it.

It's a story that is incredible, yet ultimately its the story, rather than the way it's told, that sticks with you.

VERDICT – Mel Gibson's directorial return is a patchy one; for all of *Hacksaw Ridge*'s breathtaking and visceral visual magic, the story itself is a beguiling one executed poorly.

The performances are strong, the final hour an incredible display of directorial bravado, but *Hacksaw Ridge* struggles to match the captivating nature of the story being told. Average.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Saving Private Ryan* (1998), *Apocalypse* (2006)

Black Jam Circus launch new album



A special album launch by Black Jam Circus is taking place on Friday, February 3, on Barry Island, and entry is free.

A spokesman said: "The Black Jam Circus is an original band made up of a group of mysterious brothers."

"They have recently released their debut album, which contains 15 original tracks produced by local producer Paul O'Kelly at St Paul Studio."

"Not much is known about the band, but rumour has it that the band is made up of a group of seven brothers who have been working

with a travelling circus until now.

"The album is an eclectic mix of pop / rock / reggae / punk and funk and the songs are based on real life experiences."

"The album can be downloaded from www.blackjamicircus.com or physical copies of the CD can be purchased from the Chimera Tattoo Emporium on Holton Road, Barry, or at the Barry Music Shop."

"On Friday, February 3, the band will be launching their album at an official launch party at the Barry Island Sports and Social club, doors will open at 7.30pm and the event is free entry."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Toys and trains

BARRY Toy and Train Sale takes place on Sunday, January 29 at 10.30am to 3pm at Holm View Leisure Centre, Skomer Road, Barry, CF62 9DA.

Please note that this is a new venue for the toy and train sale. There is plenty of free car parking and easy access at this leisure centre, which is just off the main A4050 road approaching the town.

As always, local charity fund-raiser and caterer Rita Limbrick will be operating the cafe within the event.

Telephone 01643 702757 or 07966 694579 or see www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk for further information.

Valeways walk

A GUIDED walk, 'The Long Way Round' takes place on Sunday, January 29 meeting at 2pm outside the visitor centre at Cosmeston.



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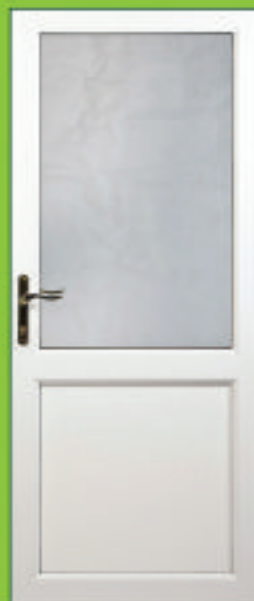
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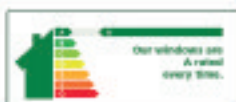
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NEWS OF SULLY WI

THE first meeting of Sully WI in 2017 was held at The Old School on January 4.

President Jean Dowding wished everyone a 'Happy New Year'. Our Christmas party in December had been very enjoyable, with plenty of food, carol singing and a present from Santa!

Our speaker for the evening was Val Shields, with a talk entitled 'Childhood Memories'.

Val gave an amusing and interesting talk about how life had been for ordinary working people in the 1940s and '50s, during her childhood and adolescence.

Covering pregnancy, childbirth and childrearing, with mother running the home and father out at work to earn the money, her memories struck a chord with many of us who had grown up with similar experiences.

We recalled our enjoyment of the freedom to play outdoors; racing homemade trolleys with no sense of danger; climbing trees; girls and boys playing football,

cricket and cowboys and Indians together.

However, one thing that no-one enjoyed were the knitted swimsuits: fine when dry on the beach, but truly awful when worn in the sea. It had obviously seemed like a good idea to someone at the time! We thoroughly enjoyed our evening of nostalgia.

The ACWW competition: 'a childhood keepsake', was won by Adrienne Jones, with Kathy Jones second and Jean Dowding third. The raffle winner was Adrienne Jones.

The mid-month meeting on January 18 was a social evening and bring and buy sale.

Everyone had a pleasant, sociable evening, with refreshments and a tempting variety of scarves, handbags, jewellery and other items to buy.

Sully WI meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in The Old School, Sully.

New members are always welcome. For more information, telephone Liz on 02920 530887.

JEAN DOWDING

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True romance is not a rosebud, but a camellia

IF your garden is in a mild location in south Wales, then snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils will begin to show their heads in February, but beware: the weather is changeable and can still bring days that are extremely cold with night-time frosts.

Time to give your garden a little bit of love with a quick tidy up and you could also start sowing seeds and planting - weather permitting. Growing your own plants from seeds is one of the most rewarding and economical ways of getting your garden going after the winter months.

For grow-your-own gardeners, February is all about cultivating and preparing seed beds (if the ground isn't frozen) and covering them with clear polythene, cloches or fleece to warm up the soil before sowing.

From mid-February, you can sow tomato and cucumber seeds for growing in greenhouses, and plant out garlic and shallots in light soils.

This is also your last chance to winter prune apples, pears and autumn fruiting raspberries and to plant bare rooted raspberries.

A simple garden solution for February is to make a 'mini woodland glade' in your garden. If you haven't any dappled garden shade you are missing

Jumble sale

1ST Dinas Powys Scout group are holding a jumble sale on Saturday, January 28 at 1.30pm at the Scout hall, Highwalls Road Dinas Powys. Admission 50p.

AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will hold a surgery on Saturday, January 28 from 10am - 11am at the Citizens' Advice Bureau, 119 Broad Street, Barry.

No appointment necessary.



Camellia.

out on some amazing plants.

Plant a couple of small trees, such as weeping willow and twisted hazel, adding lots of leaf mould to the ground to make these woodland natives feel at home. Then plant some hellebores, a couple of pots of dwarf daffodils and some native cyclamen into the ground and fill in the gaps with ferns.

Finish the whole thing off with a covering of bark chippings. Another woodland plant to consider, that does best when planted in a sheltered or shady position, is the camellia. It's also ideal for the romantics among you looking for a floral gift for your loved one as the fragrant camellia represents desire, passion and perfection.

Camellias are also one of the best garden plants to use for adding a real splash of colour in the dark winter months.

They are a wonderful plant to grow in the garden or a container, and can be grown in a more exposed position if

single, double and other flower forms.

February's garden checklist:

Prune large flowering clematis right back to a strong bud.

Divide and replant snowdrops.

If the weather is dry, keep an eye on evergreens in containers and make sure they are watered regularly.

Once winter flowering jasmine has blossomed, cut out dead stems, trim back new shoots and tie back new growth.

For the maximum show of flowers later in the year cut back summer flowering shrubs such as buddleia, lavatera and hardy fuchsia.

Deadhead winter flowering pansies to keep them blooming.

Depending on frosts, prune roses, climbers and hardy evergreens.

SARA MILNE

The Ty Hafan families enjoy studio outing

DESCRIBED as 'one of Wales' most successful holiday providers', Leisuretime took a number of families from Ty Hafan to experience the Warner Bros studio tour in London where they were able to step in to the sets and relive Harry Potter through the eyes of the filmmakers who brought the books to life.

Leisuretime offered Ty Hafan up to 20 complimentary entrance tickets to the studio and free return coach travel, which was provided by Thomas of Rhondda Coach Company.

George Johnson, director at Leisuretime,

said: "We did some really wonderful things with Ty Hafan last year and we're extending our partnership into 2017. To be able to offer the families a fabulous day out on us is a real privilege and it has been the perfect way to start what we hope will be another successful year for Leisuretime and Ty Hafan."

Natalie Whyatt of Ty Hafan said: "At Ty Hafan, we focus on relieving the burden of 24/7 care so that families can spend quality time together."

"Leisuretime has helped us to achieve this by giving these families a magical experience that they will treasure forever. We are so grateful for their support. Thanks also to Thomas of Rhondda Coach Company for providing free transport."

Glyn Thomas of Thomas of Rhondda said: "We were delighted to supply a coach and driver for this fantastic day out and will always do our best to support Leisuretime and Ty Hafan when they do these wonderful activities."

'Care sector cash a sticking plaster that won't plug gap'

A £10 million increase in funding for social care has been described as a "sticking plaster" that won't cover a massive funding gap in Bridgend and the Vale.

The additional money for the sector was announced by Rebecca Evans, AM, the Welsh Government's Minister for Social Services and Public Health.

The announcement was welcomed by Care Forum Wales chairman Mario Kreft, but he warned it was nowhere near enough.

According to the Welsh Government, the new investment will form part of a three-way agreement to be established between the Welsh Government, local government and social care employers to work together to create a more stable social care workforce.

They say the funding will help meet the extra costs associated with the introduction of the national living wage and that it is in addition to the extra £25 million for social care, which was announced in the draft 2017-18 budget in October.

Mr Kreft said: "Any extra funding to a sector in meltdown is to be welcomed but in reality it is a sticking plaster which will fail to plug the massive funding gap."

"Care providers welcome Welsh Government's recognition of the pressures the introduction of the national living wage

has placed on the sector.

"We all want to see care workers better rewarded for the vital service they provide and the increasing professionalisation of the workforce as we move towards registration."

"But in two years since October 2015, we will have seen the minimum pay rates of our care workers increase by 12 per cent. We estimate the cost of this to be at least £80 million."

"It will also have a knock on effect across the board because it will be impossible to maintain pay differentials as we would like."

"In the meantime, this extra funding should be ring-fenced so we can ensure local authorities spend it on social care."

Rebecca Evans said: "In Wales, we have prioritised social care as a sector of national strategic importance."

"Tens of thousands of people rely on these vital services every day. We know that the sector is crucial to the effective running of the wider healthcare system, which is why we are supporting the integration of health and social care through our £60m Intermediate Care Fund."

The Minister also announced that the maximum amount people can be charged for homecare and other non-residential care will increase from £60 a week to £70 from April 2017.

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THE TIDAL WAVE OF TERROR THAT SWEPT UP THE SEVERN IN 1607

by BRIAN KEITCH

FOUR hundred and ten years ago on January 30, 1607 the sea rose up and engulfed large areas a lowland on both the Welsh and English sides of the Mor Hafren/Severn Sea.

An estimated 2,000 people were drowned together with most of their livestock.

Storm surge or tsunami?

From Appledore (where a fully-laden 60-ton ship was taken by the wave from the harbour and deposited onto marshy ground where it found its final resting place) to the levels of Gwynllwg and Gwent, havoc abounded.

On our side of the water sea walls and harbour facilities were swept away – maybe the final straw for the exposed port of Cwm Colhuw, Llantwit Major, along with Ogmore.

John Leland on his visit to Llantwit Major in 1542 had noted: "Colhuw, a certain little port of the sea close to Llan Iltud where there is a direct crossing of the Severn Sea to Dunster and

Minehead in Somersetshire and hither cometh sometime boots and shippettes for succour".

Llantwit's beach being exposed to the prevailing south westerly gales has often been victim of great damage in storms such as that in 1996.

These little ports on the coast of the Fro traded both locally and far and wide, cargoes consisting of bacon and cheese for the west country (Minehead etc) and Bristol, and further afield brought to our folk such items as brandy and tobacco – not necessarily with the approval of his majesty's customs!

The Welsh Port Books (1595–1560) – a few years before the tsunami, reported the kinds of activities of ships and cargoes around our coast: *The Primrose* of Barry sailed from La Rochelle with raisins and bales of paper. The same boat returned to La Rochelle with Bridgewater cottons to return again – this time to Cardiff – with pitch, wine and more raisins.

The Mayflower from Aberddawan also traded with La Rochelle returning with barrels of wine and salt. *The Plymrose* of Barry exported coal to Rochelle. *The Anna* from Marenos in France called at Aberddawan for coal. *The Margaret* from the same port traded across to Minehead with butter and wool (and also took Welsh butter to Exeter).

The Michael of Sully transported Welsh iron and wool to Bridgwater.

All the Vale ports traded with Bristol in bacon, butter, cheese and wool.

Jenkin Griffith, master of *The George* of Newton Nottage, took wool and butter for local merchant Ifan ap Ieuan. Leather was another popular export from the Fro.

To counteract smuggling activities agents were appointed to patrol the following ports here (ports and creeks) – Cardiff, Penarth and Sully, Barry, Aberddawan, Newton and Ogmore etc.

The appointments were duly signed by Edward Stradling (St Donat's), William Matthew and Edward Mansell.

One wonders how much devastation the 1607 catastrophe must have disrupted the traders on both sides of the Severn Sea.

There are quite a number of references to the event as the printed press was up and running and leaflets were beginning to be disturbed as a forerunner of the press.

Of interest here is the *God's Warning to His People*, and *Woeful News from Wales*, also *Lamentable News out of Monmouthshire*.

A word about dates, the Julian calendar (abolished in 1752) was in use so that plaques in churches in the parishes affected record the date as 1606.

The adoption of the Gregorian calendar later places that date as January 30, 1607. Hen Galon or Old New Year is still celebrated in Cwm Gwaun in west Wales on January 13 for this day.

What's the rush in changing the calendar anyway? Our round pound coin didn't last long!

Into action – the flood occurred at about 9am and affected the counties of Devon, Somerset, Gloucestershire on the English side and Monmouth, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, Cardigan "and divers other places in South Wales" on the Welsh side. As the wave progressed up channel it got 'squeezed' as the sea narrowed.

Welsh medium tuition facing 'crisis' – warning

FIGURES showing the number of students completing secondary teacher training through the medium of Welsh has almost halved in three years are "extremely concerning", Darren Millar AM, Welsh Conservative spokesman for education, warned last week.

"Unless the negative trend is reversed, Welsh language schools could face a crisis of declining standards, and he urged the Welsh Government to offer more recruitment support to universities.

"The fall in teacher numbers is extremely concerning and unless steps are taken to reverse this trend, Welsh-medium education could face a recruitment crisis which could undermine the attainment and achievement of pupils, and the future of the Welsh language.

"If the Welsh Labour Government is serious about its commitment to Welsh language education then it must offer greater support to Welsh universities in their recruitment of graduates, and explore various incentive schemes which could serve to entice more Welsh speakers into the profession," he added.



A woodcut from St Mary's Church, Nash, Newport, made at the time of the disaster.

Haslett and Bryant (2004) have estimated the surge as being about 13 foot in the west but could have risen up to 25 feet in the upper reaches of the Severn and speeds varying from 27 miles per hour in the west to a maximum of 38 mph in Gwent.

Not much hope for anyone or thing in its path.

As a contemporary account states that it could be "affirmed to have runne with a swiftness so incredible as that no gray-hounde could have escaped by running before them".

The land inundation has been estimated at 1.55 miles in our area (low lying lands), 2.5 miles in Somerset and 3.7 miles in Gwent.

On the Somerset levels the sea reached the foot of Glastonbury Tor – a staggering 14 miles inland.

Depending on the direction of the prevailing wind on the day and, of course, the state of the tide – the south Wales coast could easily have borne the initial brunt of the sea condition.

Leland writing in 1540 spoke of Kynffig – "a village on the east side of Kynffig and a castle, both in ruins and almost choked and devoured with the sands that the Severn Sea casteth up". Was the sea event the final straw for the town – or more correctly, borough?

An early manuscript map of Cynffig dating from about 1600 shows the main street of the borough with houses on both sides of the road.

How far the sea made headway here is not certain but further up the coast, Newton and Ogmore certainly caught the full force.

The 'ports' of Bro Morgannwg were little more than sandy beaches or pebble shores where small vessels could lie at low water and be loaded and unloaded – moored to posts, or in the case of Cwm Colhuw, moored to the 'Black Boys' – a row of timbers driven into the beach.

The writings of Sir John Stradling of St Donat's related to the events under scrutiny – the devastating effects on our coast. The sea defences at the Port of the Vale – Aberddawan, which had been "constructed for the containment of the Severn, a herculean labour completed within five months".

In 1607, he wrote about the incredible flooding of the Severn, in which the sea wall, recently built was overcome "and wholly torn apart".

Sully (the 'port' was located at nearby Swanbridge) was also on low lying ground and suffered along with Barry – though the offshore tidal islands may have provided some protection.

Around the coast, Penarth harbour (Cogan Pill or creek) was in the lee of the prevailing wind – and homesteads were on high ground – but not so Cardiff.

Often vulnerable to flooding (and it still was until the construction of the barrage) – the town was badly affected as was the whole Gwynllwg levels to Newport and beyond, which were inundated when the sea defences were breached.

The church of St Mary's in Cardiff had been

built at the south end of the town – near the Afon Taf – being one of the first buildings mariners would pass on their way to the Quay and the last on their return to sea.

John Speed (of mapping fame) made a plan of Cardiff in 1610. It shows the west corner of the churchyard eroded away by the river. Speed noted that the 'Taff is a foe of St Marie's Church, with undermining her foundations and threatening her fall'.

Over time fall she did – as did the west side of St Mary's Street – with bones of the interred protruding out of the river bank.

How final the flood was in hastening the church's demise is not entirely clear – but no doubt hastened its destruction.

Meanwhile, further inland, the pamphlet *Woeful News from Wales* states how it was "24 miles in length and more than four miles in breadth" – so that even on higher ground at Llandaf, where Mistress Matthews lost 400 sheep, no-one was spared from the woeful impact of the deluge – Mistress Van, also of Llandaf, "a gentlewoman of good sort" saw the flood approaching but was overwhelmed "by the surging swell before she could reach an upper room in her house".

The Fro – largely on a plateau of about 100 feet above sea level – was spared the worst, though one wonders how much the wave brought down cliffs along the coast.

So the question remains, what caused this disaster.

Two theories emerge – a storm surge (combination of high tides and extreme weather conditions – possibly out in the Atlantic) or a tsunami caused by geological activity – again out at sea.

Regarding the tsunami theory put forward by Haslett and Bryant – geological studies along the path of the inundation have shown sediments deposited far inland which would require the strength of considerable force greater than just a storm surge.

Contemporary accounts speak of the sea retreating before the wave, tumbling waves etc., typical of this phenomenon.

It seems, however, that the brunt of this event was localised around the Severn Sea. The possibility of a storm surge (such as that in 1953 when areas of East Anglia and the low countries were inundated with much loss of life) confined to a 'weather-based path' is equally valid – especially with the accelerating force of the wave in both height and speed in the narrow confines of the water 'up channel', which in extreme conditions could be equally as destructive as a tsunami.

So next time when you go walking the dog along our coastline check the weather forecast – these events only occur every 400 years or so.

People should be safe in Cowbridge...

Conservative leader welcomes bridge toll cut

THE Leader of the Welsh Conservatives and South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has welcomed news that the UK Government is set to cut tolls on the Severn Bridge.

Tolls will drop to £3 for cars, vans and small buses when the crossings go into public ownership in 2018, and Mr Davies said this will be invaluable to people in Cardiff and the Vale.

There are also plans for a two-way 'free flowing' system to be introduced, which could lead to motorists paying £1.50 each way.

Mr Davies said: "Whether it is people coming to visit South Wales, or businesses looking to invest here, the current toll levels on the bridges do act as a barrier.

"Cutting the tolls will encourage investment in the local economy, and people in Cardiff and the Vale will see the benefits.

"This is very pleasing news, and a free flowing system, with the potential abolition of the toll plaza, would remove the bottleneck that causes huge delays at present."

A fireman's tale from the days of steam in Oxford



The writer (centre) with two friends in 1955 outside Rewley Road station (not shown), which was dismantled in 2000 as a listed Grade II building and rebuilt as a working museum at Quainton, Buckinghamshire.

THE waters of the Oxford canal lapped gently over the bow of the small hire boat, as the outboard motor purred slowly along, meandering under bridges, and past moored houseboats and barges.

After two hours of blissful cruising, I then returned the boat to its owners.

The year was 1954, I was 16 years old and after a brief time in Barry loco shed as an engine cleaner, with numerous firing turns, I had applied successfully for a job as a fireman at Oxford loco shed.

My accommodation was an old, redundant LMS railway station called Rewley Road.

With 12 people bedded down in one large room, all working different shifts, sleep was almost impossible.

After several months, we were moved to the new single room hostel,

complete with a 24-hour canteen.

While at Barry loco, the work mainly involved shunting engines in and around the dock areas. Oxford shed was more varied, with main line work on large engines, as well as the local shunting duties.

Keeping up with the latest clothes style, I spent £16 (two weeks' wages) on a Teddy Boy suit, tailor-made to measure complete with a yellow and gold waistcoat!

After two happy years, I was summoned back to Barry loco and finally to Cardiff Canton, where I finished in 1965.

Years later, my father had found good use for my old suit by using it as lagging in the outside toilet; wrapping the coat around the cistern, and the trousers over various pipework as a protection against frost!

A 'fitting end' to a once expensive and cherished top-of-the-range Teddy Boy suit!

Tony Nicholas, Barry. (Former Great Western fireman).

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL Building Excellence AWARDS 2017



BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS who use the building regulation service of the Vale of Glamorgan Council will be attending the **14th Building Excellence Awards dinner, organised through the Building Control Group of the Council at The Vale Resort Golf Club, Hensol on Friday, January 27.**

Nominations for the awards are made by the council's Building Control surveyors, who are responsible for the supervision of the projects as they progress on site, through to the completion of the work.

Victoria Robinson, Operational Manager for Planning and Building Control, says:

"The nominations go to show yet again that there are several excellent examples of high-quality construction projects that have been undertaken within the Vale of Glamorgan. Ensuring that buildings are constructed in accordance with current building regulations, requires a very high standard of workmanship. The builders nominated this year have proven that they can meet this requirement. I hope we continue to build upon the success of last year's awards, with all who take part having the ultimate aim of getting to The National Awards, in London in November this year."

Head of Regeneration and Planning, Marcus Goldsworthy emphasises: "Development of any size impacts upon our surroundings and the day-to-day lives of all of us. Ultimately, it is the builder who has the major responsibility in satisfying, not only the customer needs, but also of meeting the terms of the legislation."

"The Building Awards will provide all those involved with well-deserved recognition for consistently carrying out work of a high standard".

Coun Lis Burnett Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education adds: "These awards are so important to recognise those builders and developers who are excelling and producing top quality schemes, which can compete on a national level."

"The awards also help those looking to appoint new contractors to focus on those builders and contractors who are considered to be the very best in their field."

COUNCIL'S THANKS

The Vale of Glamorgan Council would also like to thank all the sponsors of this event, without whom it would not be possible to recognise the builders and developers whose quality of work is making a positive difference to the environment of the Vale of Glamorgan.

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Winners of the Vale of Glamorgan event will go forward to the LABC South Wales 'Building Awards' dinner that will be held at the Vale of Glamorgan Golf & Spa Resort, Hensol, on Friday April 21, 2017.

CRITERIA REQUIRED:

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- **Speed of fault rectification**
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area with views looking across the rear garden area. This project was technically challenging for the contractor, due to the complex foundation underpinning work on the existing structure to house the swimming pool, without causing stress to the existing structures which surround the proposed pool area.

The construction team showed an excellent depth of technical knowledge. This resulted in the extension and the existing dwelling coming together seamlessly with an excellent standard of finish throughout.

Regular contact and site meetings between the contractor, architect and Building Control meant a strong working relationship was developed.



Address:

**THE NEST,
ST.HILARY**

Agent:

**Susan Rosser,
Cardiff**

Contractor:

**Akerman
Builders**

This project involved the mass excavation of the rear embankment to accommodate the rear extension.

The difficulty was to prevent damp from penetrating through the walls below ground level so a robust tanking method was utilised.

The walls were finished in dressed blue lias stone which

was in keeping with the surrounding area. This material was complemented with oak window and door frames.

Inside the finishes were to a high standard with quality hardwood used and glass to give a modern twist. The thermal envelope was insulated beyond the required u-values. The rear first floor room has a vaulted ceiling and egresses onto the slate garden patio at the upper ground level.

From the room below, bi-folding doors lead out to a lower patio level.

The builder worked well with the building control department, keeping the inspectors informed at all stages which lead to few problems during the course of the project, ultimately leading to a very high quality build.



Address:

**SOUTHRA
FARMHOUSE,
DINAS POWYS**

Agent/Architect:

**Barry Mayled
Architect & Garden
Design, Penarth**

Contractor:

**Westgate Building
Services**

This scheme involved a full refurbishment and remodel of the existing farmhouse with a modern single-storey extension to the side.

The extension provides a large open plan kitchen, dining and living area, which is largely glazed to the south elevation. The large amount of glazing provides

outstanding views across the local countryside.

The flat roof provides a balcony area off the existing first floor bedroom, with the remainder being a green roof, which minimises the environmental impact of the building.

The contractor showed an excellent level of competency throughout the construction phase and the project was completed to a very high standard throughout.

Barry Mayled

Architect and Garden Designer

is pleased to be nominated
for the Vale of Glamorgan
Building Control Awards 2017
in the 'Extension/Alterations'
category at Southra
Farmhouse, Dinas Powys.

Augusta Studio,
16A Augusta Rd, Penarth,
Vale of Glamorgan CF64 5RH.
Tel: 029 2070 5864

Email: barry.mayledhomesandgarden@outlook.com



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EXTENSIONS/ALTERATIONS

Address:
**TY GWYN, DINAS
POWYS**
Agent:
**Meridian Building
Design, Dinas Powys**
Contractor:
ACV Construction

First floor extension, to include new roof, single-storey rear extension and loft conversion. The scheme consists of two-storey and single-storey extensions to the rear and side of the existing house. The first floor consists of three additional bedrooms with en-suites.

At ground floor level, the proposal was

for a substantial lounge, kitchen/family room & utility room extension. The local builder has been in contact throughout, keeping Building Control informed at each stage in consultation with the owner. *This has resulted in a very high standard build, with superb finishes.*



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Address: **TY
TANDDERWEN,
BONVILSTON**
Agent: **Kotzmuth-
Williams Architects**
Contractor:
**Wayne Moore
Construction Ltd.**

A two-storey and single-storey extension with part refurbishment of an existing extension.

The construction team showed an excellent depth of technical knowledge; this resulted in the extension and the existing coming together seamlessly, with an excellent standard of finish throughout.

Regular contact and site meetings between the contractor, architect and Building Control meant a strong working relationship has developed.



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Address:
**22, VICTORIA
SQUARE,
PENARTH**

Agent:
**1010 Architects,
Penarth**

Contractor:
**St. Brides
Building &
Scaffolding
Limited**

The proposal is a single-storey extension, consisting of a family room, gym, lounge and utility rooms.

The extension, which is constructed to the side and rear of the existing Victorian property, has also been formed to maintain the existing rear bay window which now

faces into a newly formed courtyard. The extension has both flat and pitched roofs, to present both traditional and modernist aspects to the property.

The construction has been inspected throughout, with good liaison between the builder and Building

Control, which has resulted in a high-quality extension for the modern age.



VALE OF GLAMORGAN BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017

NEW INDIVIDUAL HOME

Address:
**9 GRANGE CLOSE,
WENVOE**

Contractor:
**Mr Tom Gent c/o
CASS Scaffolding**

Agent:
1010 Architects, Penarth

This development involved demolition of the existing property and construction of a new four-bedroom dwelling.

The ground floor consists of an impressive entrance hallway, large open plan kitchen and dining area, a guest bedroom with en-suite, along with a cinema room. The first floor includes a master bedroom with en-suite and two double bedrooms. The walls externally have been clad with timber and the roof covered with shingle. The large volume of timber cladding to the walls posed a problem with fire

resistance, due to the close proximity to the neighbouring properties.

Working closely with the Building Control department, the architect and contractor overcome the issue efficiently. The standard of the finishes internally and externally is exceptional with very close attention to detail.

This attention to detail, along with the impressive energy efficiency rating, makes for a fantastic build.



The Vale of Glamorgan Council

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info@1010architects.com
029 2071 0100



Address:
DRYSLWYN, WICK

Agent:
**Barry Mayled
Architect & Garden
Design, Penarth**

Contractor:
MRJ Properties Limited

This application, submitted in a full plans format, provides a new dwelling in place of a sub-standard bungalow previously occupying the site.

The existing building was demolished to

make way for this new two-storey dwelling, with habitable accommodation within the roof space.

The main living accommodation to ground and first floors benefits from uninterrupted views over open countryside, to the rear elevation via large span bi-fold door arrangements. The

property is heated by means of a ground source heat pump, with the pipework set within the large rear garden and field.

Attention to detail sets this dwelling above similar one-off builds to produce a property with extremely high standards of finish.



Barry Mayled
Architect and Garden Designer
is pleased to be nominated
for the Vale of Glamorgan
Building Control Awards
2017 in the 'New Dwelling'
category at Dryslwyn,
Trepit Rd, Wick.

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Address:
VALE VIEW, ST. NICHOLAS

Agent:
**Davies Evans
Partnership, Bridgend**

Contractor:
**Briarley Construction,
Cowbridge**

This four-bedroom bungalow was constructed on a difficult to access and restricted building plot.

The developers' experience of constructing bespoke dwellings was evident throughout the construction

phase, and this resulted in the property being finished to a very high standard.

The large open plan kitchen and living area, with bi-folding doors, gives unobstructed views across the local countryside.

The developer was able to effectively organise the various local tradesmen to ensure a smoothly-run development.

Excellent communication with Building Control throughout the project led to any issues being resolved efficiently.



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VALE OF GLAMORGAN BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017 NEW INDIVIDUAL HOME

Address:
THE LINKS, ABERTHIN
Agent/Architect:
Don Mitchell Associates
Contractor:
Steven & David Lewis

This application, originally submitted as an application to extend the existing dwelling, was soon replaced, by a further application for a new dwelling, when the extent of demolition was realised.

From its elevated position, the main living accommodation

enjoys spectacular views over the surrounding countryside.

Contact with Building Control throughout the building operations was regular, and resulted in the trouble-free completion of a substantial property with extremely high standards of finish.



We are pleased to be nominated for the
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Address: TRUMPTON
HOUSE, BARRY
Agent/Architect:
EPT Partnership, Cardiff
Contractor:
Mr David Frost

This Grade II listed former fire station, built in 1901, was unoccupied for many years – which resulted in the building falling into a very poor state of repair.

Fortunately, the developer was eager to restore the building and preserve the life of this iconic building, along with the associated history. The development started with a large-scale repair operation, to remedy many defects prior to commencing with the conversion work. The conversion includes eight luxury apartments, the re-build of the rear annex and the construction of a tranquil communal garden, all of which have been finished to an exceptional standard. The

developer was keen to retain the industrial feel of the building which is identifiable throughout.

The exposed steelwork, retention of the staircase and access to the practice tower through one of the apartments gives you a constant reminder of the building's history whilst adding a depth of character.

The close working relationship between the developer and the Building Control department meant any issues were resolved with ease.



BEST CONVERSION



Address:
LLANDOUGH HOSPITAL
Agent/Architect:
Powell Dobson Architects
Contractor:
Laing O'Rourke

This proposed new development consists of a Mental Health Unit, on three storeys (lower ground, ground and first). The building is situated on a sloping site, allowing escape to the outside area at both lower ground and ground level.

Numerous site meetings were held between the contractor's architects, various NHS trust staff and building control to plan and discuss how the project would develop through the construction process. As a consequence of this team-developed approach, and the professionalism of the contractor, the unit was constructed to a high class finish.

BEST PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING



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VALE OF GLAMORGAN BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017

BEST SOCIAL HOUSING

Address:

**CWRT COL-HUW,
LLANTWIT MAJOR**

Agent:

**Gillard Associates,
Cardiff**

Contractor:

**Jehu Construction
Limited**

This application, for 18 affordable apartments, was submitted in a full plans format.

The main issue for the contractors to deal with was the severe restrictions of the site layout, with little space for storage of incoming materials.

Hence a programme of material deliveries was developed to ensure a smooth flow of traffic onto the site.

Despite the severe lack of space, the contractor used his vast experience to produce quality construction within the contract period for this much-needed type of accommodation.

This development is well worthy of its inclusion in our awards presentation.



We are pleased to be nominated for the Vale of Glamorgan Building Control Awards 2017
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mail@jehu.co.uk



Newydd is proud to be working with the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Welsh Government to provide affordable homes.

Newydd is delighted that Cwrt Col-Huw in Llantwit Major has been nominated in the Building Control Awards. Thank you to our development partners and contractor's Jehu.

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Address: **THE TRAMSHED**

This award recognises the best development team approach, long-standing relationship, or co-operative approach to problem solving.

There needs to be evidence that the partnership has developed beyond the 'normal' working relationship and continues to use LABC over an extended period of time. Entries should include information about the relationship with Local Authority Building Control.

Specific Criteria:

- Length of partnership
- Variety of projects
- Innovative solutions developed by working in partnership
- Strengths of partnership
- Consistency of work
- Value of partnership
- New work gained from the partnership.

D.S. Properties have proven that the above criteria has been met and fully achieved to a high standard. Building Control teams from The Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff City Council, have worked closely with the contractor and teams of experts to achieve the outstanding development.

BEST PARTNERSHIP



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BEST SUPERVISOR



This award recognises a specific individual, rather than an overall company. Nominations should be for a site manager who has stood out – by going above and beyond the call of duty – to ensure an outstanding working relationship with the local authority.

LOCAL BUILDER/TRADESMAN

This award recognises good quality general builders or specialists in local craft skills. Specific criteria:

- Vernacular building reflecting local traditions and construction

materials.

- Consistency of high quality craft skills.
- A history of repeating good quality work.
- Local, small scale projects in the domestic or new build market.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017 SPONSORS ETC.....

THE GLAMORGAN GEM

THE Glamorgan GEM is proud to once again co-sponsor the annual Vale of Glamorgan Building Awards.

As the Vale's most widely read and distributed weekly newspaper, we are committed to supporting the community as a whole, and local businesses in particular.

As such, it gives us genuine pleasure to publicly acknowledge their professional achievements – and what better way to do this than through these prestigious Vale of Glamorgan Council awards?

The nominees listed in this special supplement had to fight off formidable competition to get this far and they can be justifiably proud of themselves

The GEM, too, is pleased to play its part in honouring this Vale success story.

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the industry's regulatory bodies (NAEA); so you can rest assured that we are an estate and letting agent that you can trust.

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ACD Skips is a family-run company that was set up in Bridgend as a one-lorry operation in 1993.

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The company is progressive, is open to any new waste reduction initiatives, and actively pursues new waste recycling ideas.

It continues to source waste streams to recycling end-users. Understanding the requirements of its customers, together with good service, remains a top priority.

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Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
DAWNSFA ELUSEN Y MAER

Councillor Stuart Egan, Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, wishes every success to the nominees for the Vale Council's Building Awards.

Mae'r Cyngorydd Stuart Egan, Faer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, yn dymuno pob llwyddiant i'r rhai a enwebwyd am Wobrau Adeiladu Cyngor y Fro.

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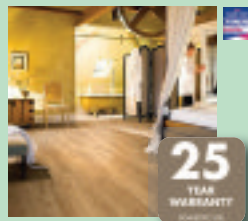
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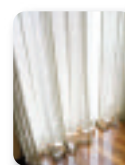
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'Creating the perfect design is a special moment'



Dan Thomas



DAN THOMAS, Sigma 3 kitchen designer at the Cardiff Culverhouse Cross showroom, who's worked for the business for over eight years, gives us an insight into how they turn your kitchen dreams into a reality.

I've been brought up with Kitchens and Sigma 3. My father's been with the business for over 30 years, so when the opportunity to work for Sigma 3 came up I was thrilled.

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Our customers can walk into our showrooms and feel at home immediately, you can come in for a coffee and a chat and we'll guide you through your kitchen journey. We often have customers pop back in months after their kitchens have been completed just to say hello and catch up!

I have designed thousands of kitchens to suit my customers' budgets and requirements, I find it extremely important to work with my customers to achieve the ultimate design. Whether they want to spend £5,000 or £50,000, we have something for everyone.

Being part of creating someone's dream home is the most rewarding part of my job. There is one couple that have always stuck in memory, they'd been to quite a few kitchen companies but couldn't find the design for them, but when I presented my design there were tears of joy as they could finally

visualise their dream.

It's such a special moment when you know you've created the perfect design for your customer.

My advice to anyone looking for a new kitchen is be brave! Don't settle for the standard designs which are often churned

out in the kitchen industry. I don't believe you need to go for a radical colour to create something unique, it's all about designing something that is tailored to your needs.

I know the kitchen process can seem

daunting, but I'm here to help and make sure purchasing your dream kitchen is an enjoyable experience.

To start your kitchen journey, pop in to the Cardiff showroom or give Dan a call on; 02920 593 969.

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Undertaking a new profession in old Barry

Part 2: Funeral directors: 1889-1919

LOCAL historian Laurie Owen is fascinated by the history of Barry – in particular the remarkable growth in population within the docks were built.

In this installment, he looks at how one business grew, in response to the increasing numbers of residents.

The Docks opened in 1889 and the arrival of thousands of navvies and later whole families had seen a sharp increase in the number of deaths and burials within the town. This presented opportunities to some of the new arrivals and over this period, competition would be intense as they vied for their share of this growing demand.

DAVID Spickett (1824-1895) was born into a family with ancestral rights to a portion of Cadoxton Common and by 1861 was living with his wife Margaret (nee Jenkins), son William and baby Margaret, and already a carpenter employing one man and a boy.

Having been sexton at Merthyr Dovan church for many years, a role which included grave digging and burials in coffins made by father and son, they were already undertakers.

From 1881 at least, he had the contract to carry out 'pauper burials' but in 1895 his tender of 30 shillings was now too dear and it was granted to James Jones for 18 shillings. This was the harsh new world of competition.

An interesting story in the press was when the Burial Board accused him of taking a pauper to the cemetery in a 'greengrocer's cart'. David found this deeply insulting, as it was a perfectly acceptable 'spring cart' and said that if they wanted a hearse, then they should pay him the 10 shillings extra as they did in Cardiff.

Sadly in 1895, David died after a short illness in Wesley House, his home for many years, and he was buried in the churchyard with his elder brother William.

William Spickett (1855-1932) had married Annie Maria Hiley in 1887 and carried on the business, moving from Barry Road to 181, Court Road by 1901 with four daughters: Abigail, Elsie, Doris and Sybil, followed six years later by son Frederick William Kenneth Hiley.

His press advert emphasised that they had been established for 60 years and that they were the 'Oldest and Only Experienced Undertakers in the District'.

When William died at 181 Court Road in 1932, son Kenneth would carry on the tradition and 115 years later the business is still trading at that address, and until recently under the family name.

It must have been galling for David and William that with extra business now available in this booming industry, at least nine other undertakers would set up in direct competition over this period and they were all newcomers.

David William Thomas (1862-19...unknown) was born in Llanddeusant, Carmarthenshire to parents William and Martha and with his father a carpenter, David also entered the same trade.

With wife Mary and two young sons Tom and William, David came to Barry for a fresh start, in the knowledge that there would be ample opportunities for a skilled man. They settled at 4 Vere Street and quickly extended their space into number 5 and in the census of 1891 he was a cabinet maker and undertaker, even repairing carts as a wheelwright.

In April of that year he set up in partnership with James Jones, as undertakers 'Jones, Thomas and Company'. In a move which in hindsight he might have regretted, just seven months later he auctioned the entire contents of his large furniture store.

With wives of working men now improving their homes, his early adverts had proclaimed that he was the only 'practicable c a b i n e t maker/upholsterer in town' yet within months he was bitten by the burial bug.

Unfortunately two years later David was declared bankrupt, explaining to the court that trade in Barry was depressed and that he was not a good businessman and had kept no official records.

Surprisingly, his adverts as an undertaker continued until 1898, so possibly James Jones was still involved in some way.

As with so many of the newcomers from west Wales, they were bilingual and religious and in the Mission Room in Idlesleigh Street (Main Street), David was the organist and director of the choir.

At some stage, the whole family left Barry and were next recorded in Enfield, Middlesex in the 1901 and 1911 censuses, with David working as a carpenter/joiner.

James Jones (1865-1917) was born in Newchurch, Carmarthenshire to parents John and Anna and in 1871 his father was a pig drover, bringing up young James and elder son John aged 14.

He arrived in Barry in 1887 with new wife Anne and began trading as a greengrocer at Holton Road but soon realised that burials could be profitable and, as mentioned earlier, his tender for pauper burials in 1895 was 40 per cent lower than that of David Spickett.

By the next census he was an undertaker, furniture remover and fruiterer at 67 Holton Road with two nephews; David Jones, at 20 a coffin finisher, and Thomas Evans, a 26-year-old coffin maker, with niece Mary Thomas their housekeeper at 18 years of age.

In a confident and bold advert, he displayed his prices for a top of the range funeral at 12 guineas down to a third class with a 'shelliebere' (various spellings) and coach at four guineas.

In 1911, James and Anne still had no children, but David was now a funeral director/engraver and Thomas a casket maker/carpenter.

This newcomer from Carmarthenshire was also an active citizen by being a JP, a member of

Glamorgan County Council, Barry UDC and was on several other committees. Politically he was a moderate Liberal and attended Holton Road English Baptist Church.

After suffering a painful illness for some months, James died in 1917 aged 52, leaving Anne a widow. His funeral was attended by council members, tradesmen, Freemasons and many members of the public.

After his death, an advert stated that the business would carry on, presumably run by his nephews.

John Jones (1857-19...unknown) The elder brother of James was a grocer at 57 Main Street by 1891 and already a widower. His sister Mary was helping with his young children, Alwyn, Arthur, Annie and Gertrude, with David Evans and Thomas Johns working as grocer's assistants.

At some time over the next 10 years he too was bitten by the burial bug and was trading at 153 Holton Road opposite the Windsor Hotel as an undertaker and furniture remover, with his workshop and mews at Bassett Street. In 1901, he expanded by opening at 1 Charles Street, Cardiff.

Researching names such as these has proved difficult but it is possible that John died before the 1911 census, because his sister Mary was a restaurant keeper at 2 Paget Road on the Island, with his youngest daughter Gertrude assisting her.

Records show that his eldest son Alwyn Elington Jones died in 1924 in Lowestoft, where he was a curate.

The reason why these two brothers were competing against each other in Holton Road is unknown.

Edwin James Hooper (1867-19...unknown) was living at 50, Salop Street in 1901 with his wife Caroline, three stepsons and their daughter. Parents Jacob Israel and Delilah brought their large family to Penarth and by 1881, father and son were undertakers.

An 1895 advert announced that EJ Hooper was an undertaker at 178 Holton Road, with their workshop and mews in Regent Street. With a furniture van also available for hire, it was possible to place orders at the ironmongery premises of his brother WH Hooper in High Street.

No record has been found of Edwin, Caroline and their young daughter Caroline in the 1911 census, but the two eldest stepsons Thomas and Theodore were boarders in Penarth.

When Jacob died in 1912, he left a small legacy to William H

Hooper who was not the eldest son, suggesting that maybe Edwin had died or maybe emigrated.

William Hedley Hooper (1868-1934) was the third son born to Jacob and Delilah in Llanelli, before coming to Penarth with the family by 1879.

Following his marriage in 1888 to Elizabeth Morgan and the birth of Gwendoline, they moved to Barry where he opened as an ironmonger at High Street, with his 14-year-old brother-in-law Rees Morgan as an assistant.

William had to learn a trade new to his family and by 1901, with a second daughter and two young sons he was living at 2 Hilda Street.

Sharing their home were three sisters-in-law who were helping out and both William and 24-year-old Rees were now recorded as 'Master Ironmongers'.

With obvious ambition and expansion in mind he opened a second shop in Llantwit Major, quickly followed by large premises at 81, Holton Road. He had been advertising as an undertaker at 99/100 High Street since 1900 and then also from Holton Road two years later.

As a matter of interest to all Barry residents, a young Dan Evans would assist him at this address, before taking over the hardware business just four years later.

Back in High Street, William set out to make the funeral business more professional and in 1908 he published a comprehensive 'Funeral Record and Ledger' which was well received and sold to the trade.

As a true entrepreneur, he wanted to offer a service that his many competitors were not giving. To this end he set sail in 1909 on the *RMS Mauretania* to learn the art of embalming, and at Boston he studied and then returned with the respected Diploma of Massachusetts College of Embalming.

Thereafter all his adverts announced that he was an embalmer and sanitarian, stressing that he would be accompanied by a 'capable lady attendant'.

William used the outbuildings at the rear of the Barry Hotel to stable his horses and carriages and the premises are still used today for the repair and maintenance of cars.

In 1911, eldest son Hedley Morgan was attending private school and living with grandfather Jacob in Penarth.

The business continued to flourish at 98/100 High Street for many years, most likely with the help of Elizabeth and their three sons, Hedley, Samuel and William and then in 1934 William died at 'The Elms', their home

in Harbour Road.

William James Hallett (1877-19...unknown) was born in Cardiff to parents James and Sarah and the family lived in Roath for the next 20 years, with the father working as a carpenter.

William was a coachbuilder by the time they arrived in Barry, so they were both well qualified to be funeral directors. Their home at 5 Wyndham Street was also the branch office and in 1900 they teamed up with a coal merchant, trading as 'Adams and Hallett' at 134 Holton Road.

For reasons unknown, just two years later they were advertising separately with AG Adams staying at number 134, with William moving further up the road to 248 and also at 5 Broad Street. He was offering 'first class work at third class prices, with his own practical and personal attention', yet his time in business was seemingly not to last.

By 1911 he and wife Florence Gertrude (nee Moss), their daughter Gertrude and three sons Ernest, Percy and Harold were living at 56 Brook Street and he was working for the railways as a wagon repairer, as was his father James.

Confusingly, the 1923 Kelly's Directory still listed William James Hallett as an undertaker at 55, George Street.

Alfred George Adams (1852-1931) was born in Pill, Bristol to parents John Henry and Clara and his father was a mariner and later a Bristol Channel pilot.

After marrying local girl, Sarah Ware, in 1875 he was a coal merchant and grocer in Pill with two small daughters.

With a new town growing on this side of the Channel, Alfred left his family to build a business here and by 1891 he was an employer coal merchant at 16, Greenwood Street. A partnership with undertaker WJ Hallett briefly followed and by 1901, wife Sarah had joined him at 134 Holton Road with daughter Edith, sons Bramwell and Rowland and his father-in-law Henry Ware.

The business flourished and by 1911, Sarah, Edith and Rowland were all working in the company, with Hannah Thoday as a domestic servant. Son Bramwell, who had gained a BSc at Cardiff University and was a secondary school master in Llanelli in 1911, was tragically killed in action in France in 1917.

The business was still in Holton Road in 1923 and although Alfred died in 1931 at 27 Wyndham Street, we all know the legacy he left is still with us today at a different location.

Augustine J Stone (1869-1924) was born in

Cardiff to parents Gaius Augustine and Mary and his father had been an undertaker at 10-12, Working Street for at least 20 years.

In 1901 he was living and working as a coachbuilder/undertaker at Newport Road, Cardiff with wife Ida and two domestic servants. Although he would not live in Barry, in 1902 he opened a branch office at 101 Holton Road to complement the one in Cardiff.

When he died in 1924 at Newport Road, his sizable bequest illustrated that the burial business could be profitable for some.

A late arrival to the funeral scene was a coal merchant from Mynyddislwyn, Monmouthshire named **George Gay (1863-1934)**, who was living at 38, Cross Street with his wife Mary (nee Crowther) and sons Arthur and George in 1909.

His first advert as an undertaker was in January 1913 at Station Street, followed in 1919 by an announcement that George Gay & Sons would be trading at 152, Holton Road.

In time, it seemed that the Spickett family curtailed their advertising, but James Jones and family, WH Hooper, AG Adams and Gay & Sons were still regularly displaying their services up to 1919 and beyond.

Belgian Black horses and Shillibiers featured prominently in the adverts, but the horses in fact were Friesians from Holland which were shipped via Antwerp in Belgium, hence the name.

The plumes on the horses' heads illustrated the standing of the deceased in the community, ranging from two for someone of modest means up to seven for the very rich.

A Shillibier was named after its inventor, George, and was a combined hearse and mourning coach, but early models had no brakes, so stopping depended on the driver's control of the horses, with a little help from drag chains.

At this time Holton Road was the main centre for business, but it should be remembered that initially it was just a muddy, narrow lane where shopkeepers laid down planks of wood to allow customers to enter their premises.

During this period of the 'burial boom' there were so many undertakers in Holton Road that it must have been a constant reminder of mortality.

Samaritans DEAL pupils a good hand

DEVELOPING Emotional Awareness and Listening – known as DEAL – is a teaching resource from the Samaritans for schoolchildren aged 14 and over.

Aimed at pupils in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, Samaritans Cymru launched its bilingual version of the scheme to coincide with a recent World Suicide Prevention Day.

According to *The Good Childhood Report* (2012), many young people in Wales have negative attitudes towards mental health difficulties among peers and avoid seeking help with their emotional problems.

The report also states that while most children are happy with their lives as a whole, around one in 11 (9%) is not.

This amounts to half a million children in the UK aged eight to 15 who have low wellbeing at any given time. The delivery and teaching of emotional health and awareness in educational settings can help with communication skills, social skills, co-operation, resilience, a sense of optimism,

by Andy Johnstone

empathy, self-esteem and problem solving skills

The DEAL resources contain session plans and activities that are divided into the themes of: emotional health; coping strategies; dealing with feelings; and connecting with others (communication skills).

Lesson plans, activities, hand-outs, audio-visual resources, teachers' notes and staff training materials can all be accessed and downloaded from Samaritans' website.

Sarah Stone, executive director for Wales, said: "We are eager to support schools in Wales to further engage with vulnerable young people. Our DEAL programme is aimed at increasing the understanding of emotional health and improving effective coping strategies in young people through their PSE [personal and social education] programme.

"Developing an understanding of emotional health and encouraging help seeking is vital to create opportunities for young

people in Wales.

"Samaritans believes that through finding ways to respond to people in distress, we can make a significant difference to the rate of suicide. We must work together, locally and nationally, to achieve real change in Wales."

Bridgend Labour MP Madeleine Moon, present in a Westminster Hall debate on the subject, backed DEAL.

She said: "The resource pack is available for teachers to take it into schools, or the Samaritans will send volunteers into schools to undertake, separate from the school system, talks and raise awareness for young people.

"That is the sort of low-cost – not expecting lots of money to be involved – involvement of people and organisations such as the Samaritans, with their specialist knowledge and awareness, that is extremely helpful in reaching young people."

For more information, visit www.samaritans.org/DEAL.

Samaritans is available round the clock, every day of the year. Call 116 123 to talk.

The meeting closed after members had enjoyed refreshments and a chat. Meetings are held at Victoria Park Community Centre every third Monday at 7pm; contact 01446 404891 for more information.

No rest for The Jam Fund over Christmas and the New Year!

THE Jam Fund never sleeps and is always working to help children with serious health issues and their families – whatever the time of the year.

Over Christmas and the New Year the charity was just as busy as ever spreading hope and goodwill.

It was started in memory of Jamie Adamson, who died of cancer at the age of five in 2004.

Jamie was born on Christmas Day, 1998, and to celebrate his life on Christmas Day 2016, his father Paul released red balloons with special notes attached asking people whether they knew of a child who needed help.

Paul told The GEM: "I let 18 balloons loose from Jamie's graveside at Barry cemetery on Christmas morning."

"One of these was found by a lady in Abingdon in Oxford-

shire."

Lisa Baldwin, a mum of one, spotted a scrap of a balloon among leaves on December 30, when she was walking near her home in Geoffrey Barbour Road, Abingdon.

She noticed a tag tied to the remainder of the balloon, which had sailed the 120 miles from Barry.

Lisa contacted a friend Sally Hall, founder of Abingdon children's charity Blue Sky Thinking, who suggested three children who would each benefit from £250 offered by The Jam Fund.

Paul Adamson was thrilled that the ladies had found children The Jam Fund could help.

He is now seeking to help four children in the Vale or Cardiff with a serious illness who need help. The charity will

donate £250 each, but they must be youngsters the charity has not helped before.

Paul added: "The Jam Fund was also able to help the Ware family in Barry over the Christmas period."

"The Wares light up their home every Christmas to raise money for charity and their chosen charity was the Amelia Trust Farm."

"Unbelievably, someone decided to steal a charity collection box from the wall of their home so the Jam Fund stepped in with a £500 donation to help replace it."

"The Barry Round Table also assisted the family with a donation. The Ware family have consistently raised money for various good causes and to think that somebody can be callous enough to steal from a charity is saddening."

Paul can be contacted at the email: jam.fund@sky.com.

RHOOSE COUPLE'S DIAMOND WEDDING



John and Sheila Jones of Rhose with their diamond wedding anniversary cake.

JOHN and Sheila Jones of Rhose celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on January 19 with a family party at The Fontygary Inn at Rhose on January 21.

They were delighted to receive a card from HM The Queen.

John and Sheila met in 1956 when they both worked at the Rhymney Brewery and went on to marry and have three children, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Choir helps Mind to the tune of £1,000



Mind in the Vale receives a cheque from the choir.

MENTAL health community support group Mind in the Vale has benefited from Barry Male Voice choir to the tune of £1,000.

Mind representative Barney Sanders said: "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the audience present at the choir's Christmas concert held on our behalf."

"The group is ran by veterans for veterans in the Vale. Turn up on Saturday mornings and you will be made welcome."

Choir chairman Gareth Roberts added: "Supporting the community is a major priority for the choir. In addition to its Christmas concert, the choir over the Christmas period sang at St David's Church Colcot, at the switching on of the High Street lights, at Wetherspoons' Sir Samuel Romilly, at Barry Hospital and at Tesco, Culverhouse Cross."

"More recently the choir performed at the tenth anniversary celebration of the Barry library."

TICKETS PLEASE! National Welsh reunion planned



National Welsh staff pictured after a trip to Blackpool in the 1970s.

NATIONAL Welsh Omnibus Services – often referred to as National Welsh – operated in south-east Wales and in the Forest of Dean from 1978 until 1992.

To mark 25 years since the company ceased operations in February 1992, Norman Chinnock, formerly an inspector at National Welsh Bridgend, has organised a reunion on February 10 at 7pm at Bridgend Railway Club on Coity Road – and it might be the last one.

Speaking to The GEM, Mr Chinnock – who now lives in Scotland – said: "This reunion is for all ex-Bridgend staff or relatives, or indeed anyone who would like to attend."

"Taking ages into account, this will probably be the last time such a

reunion will be possible." He continued: "I would like to put a call to arms through The GEM to maximise coverage of the event and to get this information out to as many former staff as possible."

"I will be travelling from Scotland and another ex-employee will be coming from Dublin. It would be great to get a few more old faces together on February 10."

Mr Chinnock said that a number of Facebook groups exist for former National Welsh staff, and former staff should search for Wonderful Western Welsh to keep in touch with former colleagues.

Mr Chinnock is happy for former employees of National Welsh, or their families, to contact him by email at normanandanna@hotmail.co.uk or on 07551954007 to discuss the reunion.

More great news for veterans as breakfast club is launched

HARD on the heels of Vale Armed Forces' veterans getting a drop-in centre at Barry Athletic Club, Sully

Sports and Social Club has agreed to a veterans' breakfast club on Saturday mornings.

It is due to start on Saturday, February 4 and will run from 9am until 12 noon every Saturday.

Local veteran, Anthony Fitzpatrick, explained: "There are other breakfast clubs such as the one in Cardiff, but we wanted one locally so people don't have to travel 10 to 15 miles."

"The inaugural day will be held on February 4 when local MP Alun Cairns will open it."

"All veterans and serving members of the Armed Forces are welcome."

"There are no commitments or subs."

"Our ethos is mutual support. It will be a great place to meet like minded people for support, chat and banter – not forgetting a great breakfast!"

"The group is ran by veterans for veterans in the Vale. Turn up on Saturday mornings and you will be made welcome."

Three Peaks challenge

THE Meningitis Now charity is looking for outdoor enthusiasts to join its Three Peaks Challenge in June, raising funds to fight the killer disease.

The 36-hour challenge, designed to push walkers to their limits and give them a real sense of achievement, takes place between June 9 and 11 climbing Snowdon, Scafell Pike and finally Ben Nevis.

Until the end of January Meningitis Now has guaranteed places for just £49, plus a commitment to raise a minimum of £500 in sponsorship towards work.

In return trekkers get transport, accommodation, food and the support of a qualified safety team to take them on the memorable challenge.

There's also an opportunity to attend a training day in the

Brecon Beacons on April 30 to test fitness levels and equipment, advice and support from the charity's professional and friendly events team and 15 per cent discount at Cotswold Outdoors.

Rachel Oakley, event officer at Meningitis Now, said: "This demanding but breathtaking adventure will provide picture-perfect moments and memories to last a lifetime. The Three Peaks Challenge is definitely not one to be missed and we're with you every step of the way! Please sign up today and make a difference to the lives of people facing the devastation of meningitis."

Meningitis Now is committed to saving lives and rebuilding futures torn apart by meningitis, through research, awareness and support.

Contact www.meningitisnow.org, or telephone 0345 120 4530.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

The following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D967.

● £2,000: 985004.

● The rollover, which was £500, was not won this week.

● £10: 170270, 130172, 412958, 100517, 852569, 274777, 649528, 811550, 945727, 117219, 336474, 159307, 146246, 938691, 541678, 308876, 504989, 926209, 898345, 1008322.

● £5: 845461, 559903, 293143, 980111, 847980, 772064, 830785, 433164, 721099, 643908, 389089, 205231, 766733, 684931, 882159, 357867, 852178, 2300.

711608, 415383, 459314, 841101, 669349, 104441, 526226, 575213, 163439, 617763, 778816, 430136, 982275, 931540, 290285, 763056, 504495, 948104, 864818, 808122, 300287, 177586, 713261, 577959, 639192, 381991, 757394, 291865, 755019, 215993, 365623, 574492, 138455, 362992, 646377, 777186, 867964, 714543, 503, 1299, 1353511, 1689234, 1710473.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

SSAFA needs volunteers

SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity formerly known as the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, which

has nine branches in Wales, is urging people to build on their New Year's resolutions and learn new skills, while giving something back to their local Armed Forces community, by becoming a volunteer.

Choir for hire!

BARRY Community Choir has restarted rehearsals and along with two main concerts will reach out to the community during the year at care homes, residential homes and charity events.

Contact the choir on 01446 748724/029 2053 1359 or email: info@barrycommunitychoir.com.

It rehearses at Crossways Church, Barry, on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm.

SSAFA Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan branch operate volunteer-led support services across the county with a county-wide need for new volunteer caseworkers who directly deliver the support.

The charity, which has supported serving members of HM Armed Forces, veterans and their families for over 131 years, is seeing the requests for support from this group increase.

If you are interested in joining your local SSAFA team, visit www.ssafo.org.uk/new recruits or call 0800 032 5612.

SSAFA volunteer caseworkers support members of the Armed Forces community in a range of ways, such as:

Visiting them in their homes, assessing their needs and building a bespoke package of support.

Providing support with issues such as – mobility, home repairs, household goods, homelessness, marriage breakdown, mental health problems, urgent debt support, essential food and groceries and clothing and training costs to help younger veterans back into work.

Accessing funds for house adaptations for a serviceman or woman injured while fighting for the UK.

Befriending elderly veterans and providing them with company and happiness to combat loneliness and isolation.

Raising the rent for a young veteran unemployed and struggling with the transition from military life to civilian life.

For all your latest news...
glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Peterston panto packs out the village hall for three nights of entertainment

Photographs by
IAN DIXON

THE Peterston-super-Ely entertainment society packed the church and community hall over three nights (January 19-21) for the annual pantomime.

There were corny jokes, lots of songs and dance, as once again Jack defeated the giant in the society's production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

The show was a great success, with polished performances from a superb cast, most professionally organised by producer Helen Timms.



Penarth lecture on social justice issues

REVEREND Aled Edwards, the secretary of Cytûn (Council of Churches) in Wales will give the annual lecture of Penarth Cytûn.

Rev Edwards will speak on social justice issues and of his work with refugees and asylum seekers, for which he received an award from the Queen.

The meeting will be in Trinity Methodist Church, Woodland Place, Penarth on Wednesday, February 1 at 7pm.



Reverend Aled Edwards.

TNS too strong, but Barry Town United do themselves proud with performance



All pictures by Same Old Smith Photography (sameoldsmith.com, Twitter @sameoldsmiths). More pictures on page 43.

THERE was disappointment on Saturday as Barry Town United faced TNS in the Nathaniel MG Cup final at Cyncoed Stadium. While the team lost 4-0, it was a superb performance from the team, who will now look to achieve their aim of promotion.



New kit proves lucky for Tynwydd FC



TYNEWYDD FC christened their new kit with a 3-1 win against Dinas Powys Athletic at the Sports Centre on Saturday.

Having been established for 10 years-plus, amazingly this is Tynwydd's first sponsorship deal and they are proud to link up with AutoSpray - Leon Butler is pictured presenting the kit to manager Gareth Union.

Going into the game after a heavy defeat, moral amongst the team was surprisingly good and that helped Tynwydd start on the front foot and create numerous chances early on.

At the midpoint of the half a fumbled shot allowed Mark McCarthy to pounce on the keepers mistake and give Tynwydd a 1-0 lead. Lee Clarke, making his debut in goal, helped in making an incredible goalline stand after an almighty goalmouth scramble to maintain the Tynwydd's lead, a lead they soon doubled after some neat play down the right wing resulted in a cross being swung over from Dafydd Gibbs that was met with a tremendous diving header from youngster Jack Cooke, another of Tynwydd's new

signings. Dinas had a lifeline handed to them at the start of the second half with a contentious handball decision that awarded them a penalty. With score at 2-1 Dinas applied more pressure looking for an equaliser but it was Tynwydd who grabbed the next and final goal of the game.

Lloyd Union skipped through two defenders before the third defender scythed him down in the box resulting in the game's second penalty.

Julian Brana, who had an outstanding game playing in an unusual position of central midfielder, stepped up and calmly slotted the ball home to give all three points to Tynwydd, the final score 3-1.

Man of the match could have been awarded to numerous players after some great displays on the day, but Praves Pydannah took the spoils after an excellent game at left back.

Squad: L. Clarke, S. Eveleigh, J. Shepherd, J. Clisset (c), P. Pydannah, M. McCarthy, D. Gibbs, E. Hicks, Ll. Union, J. Cooke, G. Union, L. Peterson, G. Tinsley, L. Union, P. Union, L. Butler, G. Pycroft.

JC



Sully View bounce back

AFTER the previous week's hammering, the Sully View were determined to get back on song, as they sought the double over Cathays.

Attacking from the kick-off, on reaching the visitors' 22 they lost possession, and Cathays' strong running backs were only foiled back in the Sully 22. Cathays were awarded two penalties in quick succession, and taking them quickly before the home defence could get back in place, they scored a good try to take the lead, and seemingly knock back the View's ambitions to recover from last week's drubbing.

The conversion wasn't taken however, when the referee called time over the kicker taking too long in his preparations.

Stung into action, Sully took control up front, and behind their three ran with power and good angles, and with the ball carrier always having at least one player in support, they took complete control of the game.

By the break they had opened up a 24 point lead, with tries from Adam Wheeler, Dai Harris and Nathan Taylor, and Chris Cummings adding two conversions and a penalty.

In the early minutes of the second half, Cathays regained some of their composure, and were able to use the powerful backs to good effect, soon scoring a converted try to give themselves a glimmer of hope.

Prop Jody Velda, celebrating his birthday, then received a card from the referee - unfortunately it was yellow, and he was sent off to the bin for 10 minutes.

Even down a man, the View again took control, but it wasn't until Velda returned that they got their next try (converted by Cummings), and a bonus point, and it had to be the birthday boy himself who broke through for this vital score.

This was quickly followed by an unconverted try for lock Alex Szuchnik, and now it appeared that Sully would score at will, but on the View's next attack the visitors' scrum-half was sin binned when he tackled

the Sully winger just before he received a try-scoring pass.

Sully soon made the numerical supremacy tell as D Russell ran in for another converted try.

To their credit, being a man down and seemingly with no answer to Sully's power, Cathays pulled themselves together got into the home 22, and laid siege to the line, eventually scoring their second converted try.

There was still 20 minutes left of this highly-entertaining, and high-scoring, game, and both sides had something to achieve - Sully were looking to breach the 50 point mark and to increase their season's overall try count, which could make a difference to their final league position, and Cathays were after one more try, at least, to gain a bonus point.

Surprisingly, although the game continued to be open and flowing, neither side were able to add to their tally, as both sides' last line of defence stood firm, and Sully ran out 48-19 victors.

The only downside to the weekend was the postponement of Sully View's second XV fixture at home to Caerau, as over 30 players made themselves unavailable, or did not notify the club as to their availability.

With the seconds only having a handful of official fixtures, it is extremely disappointing not to be able to fulfil all of them, and even arrange a few friendlies, with such a large pool of players.

All players are urged to take a more active involvement in training, and communication over availability.

The next fixture is on Saturday, January 28, and will see Sully View travel to second-placed Hirwaun - meet at the Clubhouse at 12 noon.

The next reunion will be held at the Market Street Club on Friday, January 27, and welcomes past and present players/members for an easy going evening.

The reunion will raise money for a local charity, as identified by, and closely connected to, the players themselves.

MJS

Bulls ready for Challenge Cup test

BRIDGEND Blue Bulls start out on the road to Wembley this Saturday as they take a trip to the English capital in the first round of the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup, taking on London Chargers at New River Stadium (kick-off 1pm).

The 74th Challenge Cup game in history to feature a Welsh side, the Blue Bulls enter the grand old competition for a second year in a row and hope to go one better than last year when they were soundly beaten in Cumbria by Egremont Rangers, playing the match after a six-hour

coach journey.

This time, it will only take half the time to travel to their opponents and the Bulls, who won the Welsh Conference Grand Final in 2016, are looking to do what Valley Cougars couldn't in last year's Conference League South Grand Final, and turn over the London side.

Bridgend head coach Gareth Howells said: "Bridgend Blue Bulls are excited to be involved in the Challenge Cup again this year and we are very much looking forward to a tough game against London Chargers."

"We've been training hard for the game and our recent friendly match against the students certainly helped us with our preparations."

"We would also like to take the opportunity to thank the London Chargers for organising the venue and we'd like to wish everyone taking part in the Challenge Cup, the best of luck this weekend."

The Chargers v Blue Bulls match is the first of a triple header at New River Stadium on Saturday. Following their game, London Skolars host London Broncos in a friendly at 3pm before Wests Warriors face Great Britain Police in another Challenge Cup game at 5pm.

Wales' two professional clubs, North Wales Crusaders and South Wales Itronmen, enter the competition in the third round.

IG

PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB RESULTS ROUND-UP

ALTHOUGH the weather claimed one of Penarth Hockey Club's games at the weekend, both the second and third XIs made the most of their scheduled encounters to continue the unbeaten start to 2017.

PENARTH A 9, WHITCHURCH C 2
Penarth's second XI looked to keep the pressure on the top two teams in De Cymru 1 as they hosted a struggling Whitchurch team already beaten by eight goals in the first meeting between the sides at the start of the season.

The home team started well and scored with their first attack, as Chris McCarthy broke down the right before driving into the 'D' and finding Phil Lane. He, in turn, picked out David Joyce, who rounded the keeper and found the back of the net.

The lead was doubled soon after, with Lane spinning at the top of the 'D' before rifling a powerful shot past the motionless keeper.

At 2-0, however, the Bears became a little complacent and allowed Whitchurch more possession, which eventually resulted in the visitors working the ball well and scoring a deserved goal to reduce the deficit.

This spurred Penarth back into action and the two-goal lead was quickly restored, as Rich Baker set up David Kidby for another tap in. Then, on the stroke of

half-time, the Bears were awarded a penalty corner when captain Sam Chick was wiped out by the Whitchurch keeper, allowing the home defence to push forward with impunity.

After Joyce's initial effort was well saved, the extra men paid off, as the rebound was wonderfully controlled and smashed home by right back Dave Stevens, a finish any centre forward would have been proud of.

The second half saw more of the same and the fifth goal didn't take long to come as Joyce grabbed his second of the game. Penarth were in full control by this stage and a sixth strike followed swiftly with Lane again finishing well from the top of the 'D' after a superb cut-back from McCarthy.

To their credit, Whitchurch continued to push forward and grabbed a second goal from a well-struck penalty corner, but any chance of a comeback was soon removed as Joyce netted twice more to rack up an impressive four-goal haul for the game.

Determined not to be out-done, the scoring was rounded off with the final touch of the game as Lane completed a well-deserved hat-trick by finishing from an acute angle.

Although the comfortable scoreline will do much for Penarth's confidence and goal difference, they now face a difficult trip to face Swansea City A this weekend, looking to make it three wins in a row since the Christmas break.

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY C 1, PENARTH B 1
The third XI travelled to Swansea for a top-of-the-table clash against a university who had already triumphed in both their previous clashes this season and had yet to drop a point to any opposition in De Cymru 3.

With a much-changed team due to unavailability, Penarth decided to switch tactics and line up with only one forward and play a counter-attacking game in a bid to bolster the midfield and protect the back four.

This tactic seemed to work, with the defensive midfield duo of Rob Harrison and Mark Robinson giving little opportunity for the students to muster any significant attacks and, when they did manage to get through to last line of defence, this stayed solid, with Craig Llewellyn and Ian Brookfield covering well to leave goalkeeper Mark Harris with a much quieter first half than expected.

The students duly grew more frustrated as the half went on, and began to leave gaps at the back for Penarth to exploit.

Taking advantage of the unexpected opportunities, the visitors won a series of penalty corners and, from their second, went 1-0 up as skipper Dave Watkins finished off a well-worked move to claim his 20th goal of the season – and break the university's season-long clean sheet on home soil in the process.

The shock of conceding at King George V Field seemed to spur the students on and, within five minutes or so, their pressure eventually led to a chance to draw level, with a well-worked move down the right ending in an overlap and tap-in at the far post.

Penarth, buoyed by their first half performance, continued in the same vein after the interval, with much the same result, with the students getting frustrated as the Bears counter-attacked with strength.

As the second half wore on, the visitors continued to gain greater possession and territory, allowing central midfielder Dave Thomas the space to start spreading passes and create further half-chances for the forwards. Richard Cousins and Sam Salisbury both found themselves with shooting opportunities, only to put the ball wide of the post as the game drew to a frantic conclusion.

The students thought that they had snatched a winner, largely against the run of play, only to be thwarted by an excellent reaction save from the stick of Harris, while Penarth had the final opportunity of the

game, only for Watkins to misjudge a pass to Marc Sawyer with an open goal waiting.

With the game ending in 1-1 tie, Penarth remain well behind the students, in second place overall, but strengthened their promotion bid by opening an eight-point gap between themselves and the next best team ahead of this weekend's bye.

Three Penarth teams will be in action this week, with the first and second XIs facing bitter rival Swansea City at home (1.45pm start) and away respectively, while the fourth XI return to De Cymru 3 action with a trip to Gwent.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d.stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL



Hannah Mills (centre) with her gold medal.

Olympian Hannah Mills is honoured in Dinas Powys



DINAS POWYS Community Council Chair Margaret Hayley unveiled a plaque on January 23 to honour Dinas Powys' very own Olympic gold medalist, Hannah Mills.

Hannah, who won gold in the Rio Olympics with sailing partner Saskia Clarke, attended the event along with pupils from St Andrews Primary, local villagers and Vale Tory MP Alun Cairns.

Mr Cairns gave a speech to the assembled crowd praising Hannah Mills' determination as an inspiration to the children of Dinas Powys and the Vale.

Hannah said: "It's quite overwhelming. It is really nice to see everyone come out and support me."

"It's important that youngsters take up any sport because there are so many distractions these days. My dad took the first stomp on the plaque so he's made his mark."

Following the unveiling, those present took to the Parish Hall for refreshments, giving local people a chance to see Hannah's gold medal up close and to discuss her exploits.

Mr Cairns said: "Hannah Mills is an inspiration to youngsters here in Dinas Powys and across the Vale. I was very glad that so many children from the local primary school were present to see her and learn about her achievement."

"The local community is rightly very proud of Hannah, and it was fantastic to see such great support for her at the ceremony."

Evan's long trip pays off

HAVE horses, will travel. That's the motto of Llancarfan's Evan Williams, who last week had a runner in the first two races at far-flung Ayr in Scotland.

Both of them were successful under stable jockey Paul Moloney. The double was

initiated when *De Dollar Man*, a six-year-old chestnut gelding, made it three wins out of three when winning the Racing UK National Hunt Maiden Hurdle by a length from *Trontrage* and just over 40 minutes later, his Billy Bronco who, like *De Dollar Man*, is also a six-year-old chestnut gelding, came home six lengths ahead of *Sideways* in the Racing UK Profits

Returned To Racing Maiden Hurdle.

Both horses, who were well backed, are owned by point-to-point racing stalwarts William and Angela Rucker from Worcestershire.

BRIAN LEE

Dinas Powys to play at Jenner Park

DINAS POWYS FC entertain Cwmaman United in a Welsh League Division 2 fixture on Saturday, January 28.

Due to issues with the showers at the Murch, the game will be played at Jenner Park, with a 2pm kick off; entry will be via the Barry Road entrance.

RG

Council praised for championing inclusive sport

BRIDGEND County Borough Council's efforts in championing inclusive sport opportunities have been recognised by Disability Sport Wales.

Having achieved Disability Sport Wales' Inspire Bronze level accreditation in 2014, the council's continued work in supporting local sports clubs and organisations to become more inclusive has seen its accreditation level raised to silver, with gold now in its sights.

The local authority has a dedicated Disability Sport Wales Officer who operates the National Disability Sport programme, working with schools and local organisations to identify opportunities for people with disabilities.

A range of targeted services and programmes are also in place to support all groups of people to be more active including those with disabilities, older people, women and girls and people living in disadvantaged areas.

Bridgend County Borough Council's cabinet member for wellbeing and future generations, Coun Hailey Townsend, said: "The legacy of Team GB's Paralympic success, along with support from local authorities and organisations such as Disability Sport Wales, is seeing more people with disabilities across Wales taking part in physical activities."

"As well as nurturing disabled elite athletes, we also want to make sure that people of all levels of ability have opportunities to be active in some way."

Disability Sport Wales' partnership

manager, Michelle Daltry, said: "Disability Sport Wales is delighted to award Bridgend County Borough Council the Inspire Development Silver Standard."

"The drive and determination to ensure that all disabled people have a high quality experience of sport and physical activity is second to none. Bridgend are one of only three Local Authorities to have achieved this standard to date and I look forward to working with them towards Gold Standard."

For more information on inclusive sports within Bridgend County Borough, call the council's Disability Sport Wales Officer on 01656 815220 or email apd@bridgend.gov.uk.

The Barry & District League tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Rhoose Social 9, West End 6; West End Runaways 7, Cadroxton Cons 8; Liberals 5, Wyndham Cons 10.

League table: Liberals 111, Wyndham Cons 109, Rhoose Social 100, Moors Boys 99, West End 99, West End Runaways 98, Cadroxton Cons 89.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

King William XII 5, Liberals C 2; Rugby Club 3, West End C 4; Slammers 6, Allsorts 1; Rhoose Social C 5, Rhoosters 2; West End 6, Rhoose Social B 1; Liberals A 6, Rhoose Social A 1; Barries Boys 5.5, Cambrian Flyers 1.5.

League table: West End D 68.5, King William XII 67.5, West End C 61, Sea View B 58, Rugby Club 51.5, Allsorts 51, Barries Boys 49.5, Rhoosters 48, Rhoose Social C 46.5, Rhoose Social B 45, Slammers 39.5, Rhoose Social A 38.5, Liberals C 36.5, Liberals A 36, Cambrian Flyers 31.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Services Social B 0, Rhoose Social B 5; Cadroxton Cons B 3,

Penarth Cons A 2; Harbour B 3, West End C 2; Cadroxton Cons Z 3; Wyndham Cons A 2; Penarth Cons B 1, Savoy A 4.

League table: Savoy A 58, Harbour B 57, Cadroxton Cons Z 47, Wyndham Cons A 40, Cadroxton Cons B 39, Rhoose Social B 35, West End C 30, Penarth Cons A 30, Services Social B 25, Penarth Cons B 25, Rhoose Social C 24.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Sully Sports A 2, Wyndham Cons D 3; Liberators 4, Cadroxton Cons A 1; Savoy B 2, Harbour A 3; Market Street C 3, West End B 2; West End A 1, Wyndham Cons C 4.

League table: Liberators 53, Wyndham Cons C 47, Savoy B 47, Market Street B 43, Harbour A 41, Cadroxton Cons A 40, Market Street C 37, Wyndham Cons D 31, West End B 30, West End A 30, Sully Sports A 26 (* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

Swimming club seek volunteers

BARRY Beavers Disabled Swimming Club are currently being inundated with interest from potential new swimmers after a recent volunteering road show at the Memorial Hall, and are looking for more helpers to join the club.

Those interested can look up information about the club via GVS (based at the Enterprise Centre on Skomer Road, Barry), by calling Pat Finch on 07517 121729 or via our Facebook page, Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club. All interested parties would require a DBS check.

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C73



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D62



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D63

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F33



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D57



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C69



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D67



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D67



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C70



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C71

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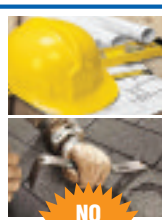
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Family Notices

JONES**Neil Carmichael**

(of Bridgend, formerly of Pontycymer)
Suddenly at home on 16th January 2017.
A beloved husband, father and bampa.
He will be loved and missed everyday and
forever in our hearts.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on
Wednesday, 1st February at 10.30am. Family flowers
only. Donations, if desired, to Sandville
(c/o Penybont Funeral Home).

MORRIS**Den**

Suddenly passed away and taken away
from us, but at rest with his beloved and
adored wife Jane.

Much loved stepdad to Dawn, James and
grandfather to Morgan, Bethan and Ciaran.
You will always be in our hearts but you
are now back with mum.

PARFITT**William 'Bill'**

(of Cowbridge)

Peacefully on January 23 at Brocastle Care
Home, aged 92. Dearly loved father of Roger,
father-in-law of Jan and granddad to
Eliza and Amy.

Funeral service on February 2 at 2pm at Holy Cross
Church, Cowbridge. Donations, in lieu of flowers
please, to be forwarded to the Injured Jockey's Fund.

DAVIS**Edward "Ted"**

Passed away at the University Hospital of Wales,
Cardiff, on January 15th, Ted of Hilary Rise,
Barry. Dearly beloved husband of Irene.

Ted will be sadly missed by all family and friends.
Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeralcare,
Gladstone Road, Barry, until his funeral service in
the chapel on Tuesday, January 31st at 2pm,
followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan
Crematorium, Barry at 3pm.

Family flowers only, but donations, in lieu of
flowers to the RNLI (Barry Docks Station).

TRESIDDER**Colin John**

Colin sadly passed away peacefully on January
17th at Llandough Hospital, following a long
illness. A much loved dad of Robin, Garry,
Nicholas, Sandra and their families.
Cherished gramps to all of his grandchildren
and great grandchildren.

Colin will be greatly missed by all of his
family and many friends.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court
Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff &
Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on
Wednesday, 1st February at 11am. Family floral
tributes only, although preferred donations may be
made at the service or via Colin's online tribute
page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you
are also welcome to leave your personal messages
and memories. All donations received to support Ty
Hafan Children's Hospice.

Colin's family wish to thank all doctors and medical
staff for their exemplary care and support given to
Colin throughout the duration of his illness.

THOMAS**Robert David 'Rob'**

(of Ewenny Road, St Brides Major)

Passed away suddenly on Friday, 13th January
2017, aged 51 years. Beloved husband of
Catherine, loving father to Bryony and Edward.
Adored son of Eileen and the late Iltyd Thomas.
Rob will be greatly missed by all of his family and
friends, especially the community of Cowbridge
where he was the proprietor of High Rise Books.

Funeral service and a celebration of Rob's life is to
be held on Friday, 3rd February 2017 in Coychurch
Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm. Family flowers
only please, however donations in lieu of flowers
can be made to a local Dementia Care Fund or c/o
Catherine after the service.

All further enquiries are to be directed to Rosemount
Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend,
CF31 3AP. Tel 01656 653156.

KEMBLE**Florence May (Anne)**

Peacefully at home with her family around her,
aged 90 years. Adored wife of Roy for 67 years,
beloved mother to Soo and Jill and much loved
grandma to Polly, Dan and Lucy.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on
Wednesday, February 1 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only.

QUINN**Linda Mary**

(Née Jenkins)

Suddenly but peacefully on the 9th January,
2017 at home, Linda, aged 68; beloved mum of
Debbie and Rachel, a much loved nan to all her
grandchildren and great grandson.

Linda will be sadly missed by all who knew her.
Resting at A.J. Stone & William Ham, 1a Neville
Street, Canton, Cardiff, CF11 6LP, until the service on
Thursday, 2nd February 2017 at Coychurch
Crematorium, Bridgend, Crallo Chapel at 11.30am.
Donations, if so desired, to The Dog Trust (Bridgend).

NIBLETT**Mary Christine**

Peacefully on the 18th January 2017 at College
Fields Nursing Home, Mary, aged 85 years, sadly
passed away surrounded by her loving family.
Beloved wife of the late Ken, a loved mother
of Graham, Peter, Tina, Jeff, Glyn, Ann and
Deborah. Mother-in-law of Barbara, Rosemary,
Alun, Jan, Robert and Tim. Cherished nan to
her grandchildren and Nanny Mary to her
great grandchildren.

Mary will be received into St Helen's RC Church
Barry at 5pm on Monday, 30th January. Funeral
service to take place on Tuesday, 31st January at
9.30am at St Helen's RC Church, Barry, followed
by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be
made at the service or sent to Park Funeral
Directors, Barry to support the Alzheimer's Society
and Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

Acknowledgement

MORGAN**Fred**

The family would like to thank everyone who
attended Fred's funeral, the numbers who
turned out were overwhelming. Your love and
support was greatly appreciated.

He will be missed by all.

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reasons, within 21 days
of this notice.
Representors must at the
same time send a copy of
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A Guide to Making
Representations is
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Paul Snook
(Snooksy)
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SUPPORTERS CELEBRATE GUIDE DOG DAY LANDMARK



Bridgend branch members celebrate after raising more than £50,000 for Guide Dogs Cymru.

SUPPORTERS of Guide Dogs Cymru in Bridgend are celebrating a magnificent milestone.

Just six years since it was set up, the charity's local fundraising group has raised more than £50,000 – enough to train and support a guide dog from birth to retirement – and members celebrated the achievement at their January meeting in

Heronston Hotel. Organiser Norah Clarke of Porthcawl said: "We've done it mainly by attending local events and holding store collections. It's all down to the commitment and dedication of a small committee and the fantastic generosity of residents and organisations across the county borough. "Just last Saturday, we had a bucket collection in Tesco in Maesteg and raised

more than £525. People are so kind, and really interested in our dogs." The Bridgend group is chaired by guide dog owner Keith Barrett of Corntown, who has been blind since he was a baby. He raised more than £5,000 for Guide Dogs Cymru by riding a tandem from Paris to Swansea with the help of a friend from the Ogmore Valley

Whealers cycling club, and is currently paired with his sixth dog, Lena. He and other members enjoy giving talks to groups of all ages, and some board guide dogs while the owners are away. Others train puppies during their first year, a role known as puppy walking. The group is

planning a busy 2017, with events including a quiz night at Laleston Gardening Club on Saturday, June 3. The next group meeting is at the Heronston Hotel at 7pm on Tuesday March 28, and newcomers are welcome. For more information, ring Norah Clarke on 01656 786018.

DR



Pictured, left to right: John Dickinson, Sam (Prince of Wales landlord) Geraint (Ellie's father) and Helen Embling.

Coychurch quizzers boost Ellie's life-changing journey

ON January 12, the Prince of Wales (Coychurch) Thursday Night Quizzers presented a cheque for £1,335 to Geraint Collier, the father of Ellie, in support of her 'SDR Journey'.

Three-year-old Ellie, from Coity, has hemiplegic cerebral palsy and the family are hoping to raise £65,000 for Just4Children to support Ellie to go to St Louis Children's Hospital in Missouri for a Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) operation, that would change her life.

SDR would reduce the spasticity in Ellie's right leg and allow development of muscles that were previously hindered. It will ensure that she doesn't suffer with bone deformities and contractures when she is older.

Ellie will also need two years of intensive physiotherapy to ensure that

the operation is successful.

Jumping, walking down the stairs, and riding a bike are things Ellie can't do now and will struggle to do in the future without an operation.

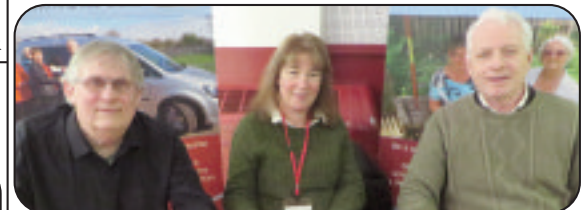
Through the efforts of her family, Coity Villagers' Association and others, three-quarters of the £65,000 needed to take Ellie to America for this life-changing operation has been raised in only 10 months.

Geraint has a further programme of fundraising over the coming months and we look forward to hearing the wonderful news in the not too distant future, that Ellie's SDR Journey target has been reached.

If you would like to help Ellie on the journey which will change her life, visit Ellie's SDR journey 'Just4Children' online.

HELEN EMBLING

Voluntary group looks back on a good day



Staffing the Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern stand John Fanshaw, Wendy Lees, Chris Franks (vice chair).

BUSINESS was brisk at the Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern stall for the volunteers' event organised in the Vale recently.

John Fanshaw, chair of the charity said he was delighted with the response from visitors. "The purpose of the day was to encourage people to volunteer. There were huge ranges of organisation present, ranging from Alzheimer's Society, to Barry Community Allotment to the Samaritans.

"We received inquiries from a number of people. What was impressive was the enormous number of voluntary organisations in the Vale."

If people want to learn more about Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, contact 02920 513700 or info@dpvc.org.uk. Also, call into the office Murchfield Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys (CF64 4QQ).

Rugby fans jet off to catch 'Les Bleus' away in Six Nations

WALES rugby supporters will be jetting off in their droves this Six Nations to see the home nation take on the 'Blues Away'.

In February and March almost 6,000 fans are expected to travel through Cardiff to see Wales play Italy, France and Scotland.

Some 3,600 supporters will be travelling to and from Rome for the first match – Italy vs Wales – on February 5.

The 'Celtic clash' between Scotland and Wales on February 25 with a host of rugby charter flights departing from Cardiff. A total of 1,100 supporters will

travel via Enterair.

Ahead of the France vs Wales game on March 18, around 1,100 Welsh supporters will travel to and from Paris on Flybe's regular daily service as well as on special charter services operated by Carpatair and Vueling.

Spencer Birms, commercial director at Cardiff Airport, said: "Rugby is a huge part of Welsh culture and we're proud to play our part and fly the flag for Wales all year round. With all of the scheduled services available to Italy, Scotland and France, there is still time to book a flight to support Wales away. Cymru am byth!"

Woody's Lodge – a Barry hub for veterans



Jane Hutt AM with the Cabinet Secretary, Noel Godfrey and Mr Woodland and Sian Woodland.

ON January 23, Jane Hutt AM hosted at an event in the Senedd highlighting the Woody's Lodge initiative to support veterans in the Vale of Glamorgan.

She welcomed Cabinet Secretary Carl Sargeant AM, who spoke in support of the initiative.

Volunteers have been refurbishing Woody's Lodge – a former naval rating accommodation at RNR HMS Cambria, Barry – in order to create a communications and social hub for veterans. Woody's Lodge is named

after Penarth Royal Marine Paul 'Woody' Woodland, who tragically died during a training exercise in 2012.

The AM said: "I was delighted to welcome members and supporters of Woody's Lodge management board to the Senedd today. Named in honour of Paul Woodland, the hub will provide a safe space for veterans in need."

"The hard work of the staff and volunteers at Woody's Lodge will mean that veterans in my constituency and further afield will be able to access vital resources and support."

Scout Council issues appeal for volunteers

AFTER last year's success of Cub Scouting's 100th birthday I need to request your support.

We need help to find more volunteers in wide ranging roles that need to be filled to continue to offer Scouting to more young people. Please would you review the types of roles we have listed below and think of people you know, both family and friends, who may be able to help us with volunteering for one of these roles.

There are many different volunteering roles available.

Some are weekly opportunities, and include the routine meetings held for people aged six to 25. Adults and young leaders (aged 14 to 18) are invited to apply.

There are also management and strategic roles, and executive positions on

offer.

Scouting also needs supporters, people who can work in the Scout shop, web publishing and social media editors to keep our online presence up to date and media writers to get the good news about Scouting out in the community.

We also need photographers and videographers to capture our activities, and activity instructors as well as activity supporters to help out at district events. For most roles, a DBS check is required, and many of the voluntary positions have 'getting started' training involved.

Please contact me on 0330 330 1907 or email julian@penarthandistri ct.org.uk to discuss these positions.

JULIAN JORDAN
District Commissioner.

Defeated... BUT BARRY TOWN UNITED IMPRESS IN LEAGUE CUP FINAL

OVER 800 supporters travelled the short distance to the capital to support Barry Town United as they faced TNS in the Nathaniel MG Cup final. This was the biggest game the club had been involved in arguably 14 years, and they put in a strong performance that, despite the defeat, left their supporters proud. Well done!

(See back page for the match report).



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Dinas Powys Wolves are the magnificent seven!

DINAS POWYS
Wolves put in a majestic performance of great attacking football in the first round of South Wales under-14s Cup against Maesteg Park.

The young lads have been training hard on attacking options and defending as a unit for weeks now, and on Saturday it paid off with seven goals and a clean sheet.

Kyle Booker opened the scoring before Bayley Harewood made it 2-0. Rian Thomas read his lines well and a move right off the training pitch saw him add number three.

At the break the Wolves looked in control but were reminded that it was vital not to switch off as the visitors were more than capable of scoring.

The home side came out of the blocks with an intensity that is becoming a familiar sight now, and further goals from Booker and Harewood put the game to bed.

Frost and Lewis marshalled the back four while Quest and Williams stopped any threat wide showing strength and pace.

In the middle Joe Doughty and Zac Fifield won the ball and played it

simple as their work rate was hard to match.

The hard working Thomas was replaced with Saunders, who kept the visitors deep and Hewitson's movement was proving very difficult to handle.

Jacob Pereira replaced the impressive Doughty which allowed Fifield the opportunity to push on and he was rewarded with a fine goal. Booker added the seventh to complete his hat-trick.

Dylan Morris was called on late in the game and stood strong to earn his clean sheet.

A large crowd were treated to teas and coffees to keep warm. Wolves certainly were a credit to the Vale League with a performance on and off the pitch.

Thank you to all who ensured the game was playable and Maesteg who made it an enjoyable match for the neutral.

Barry Chess Club news round-up

JUST the two league matches for the Barry Chess Club last week.

The results were different leaving the two Barry teams involved in matches in entirely different situations in their respective divisions.

The Camelots in Division 2 started the second half of the season at home to the Caerphilly Castles.

In the reverse fixture we lost by a margin of 3.5-1.5. This time around we managed wins by Sam Jukes, Chris Green and Tom Cooke.

Marc Cooke and Stephen Bonutto recorded draws to give us a comfortable win by 4-1.

With eight games to go the Camelots sit comfortably in fifth place. There is no chance of getting into the promotion race unless we can continue our current vein of form over all of the remaining games.

This is our fourth consecutive victory with the last three games all being 4-1. We are, however, six points above the relegation zone so hopefully we will not be dragged into a relegation fight.

In Division 4 the Quarks entertained the Pontypridd Phoenix.

We lost the reverse fixture 3.5-1.5 and to show a manner of consistency we lost this home match by the same margin.

Our points came from draws by Peter Watkins, John Ryles in his first match for many seasons and also by the

consistent Martin Ricketts, who has drawn all three of his matches in 2017.

The league table makes dismal reading as we remain in eighth place. We have caught up to the team in seventh place by a massive 0.5 points to leave us four points behind Bridgend C with a game in hand.

Elsewhere in Division 4 big wins for Rhondda Spitfires and North Cardiff Panthers leave us marooned in fifth place.

We are now six points behind the promotion places with only seven matches to play.

We are comfortably ahead of the team in sixth place so we have very little to play for except pride.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.co.uk>

PHIL JONES

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

RESULTS for the week commencing January 9 are as follows:

First division: SV Gals (B Pycroft, C Gaffney 30) 297, Pila Palas (A William 30) 271; Barry Stars (C Lambeth 34) 341, Family and Friends (S Brown, R Cummings 31) 323; Coppers (H Ford 31) 3330, Bakers Dozen (K James 35) 317; Colcot Ladies (C Fenton, K Taylor 28) 261, Red Admiral (M McCarthy, S Hayes 24) 232; Allsorts (S Tierney 29) 247, Space Finders (L Jones 24) 247; Cigar Ladies (A McCarthy 33) 305, Family Affair (S John 32) 286; Special Angels (L Brigham, L Mountford 22) 219, Bobby's Girls (G Toogood 25) 206.

Second division: Witchill Widows (S Murray 33) 299, Cad Con Fillies (T Dyball 32) 309; Airways Angels (J Thomas 24) 238, Breakaways (C Parfitt 28) 270; Merry Makers (H Duddridge 28) 201, Clickies (A Batt 28) 186; S V Lights (G Douglas, D Masterman 30) 260, Fallen Angels (R Phillips

27) 266; Witchill Weebies (S Dobbinson 36) 318, Castaways (P Clissett 32) 299.

Third division: Little Devils (L Bowsher 25) 249, Vixens (M Marks 31) 212; Challengers (D Collard 35) 310, Rebels (S Williams, P Stacey 28) 286; Upton Girls (L Hobbs 27) 239, Rugby Triers (S Watts, K Brooke 20) 194; SV Ladies (S Humphries 34) 300, Hill Billies (G Moorcraft 32) 279; Twilights (C Brown 25) 176, La Belles (E Cordy 25) 225; Etcetera (S Dyke 24) 223, Witches (P Cookson, S Beer, L Carey 25) 235; Westenders (R Morgan 24) 239, Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 27) 249.

Fourth division: Nite Outers (L Nyshore 24) 201, Optimists (E Payle 29) 262; Boozy Birds (S Rudeforth 33) 312, Off The Rails (I Rosser 40) 309; Socialites (S Marks 28) 262, Persuaders (C Organ 32) 291; Guardian Angels (T Mountjoy 23) 192, Liberals (S Allen 21) 176; Odd Bods (R Perry, T Ceriani 27) 143, Witchill Wanderers (C Morrissey 29) 166.

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63 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Energy 3-Dr In white,
20,000 miles, one owner**£5,995**

12 MERCEDES A160 Blue-Efficiency Avant Garde SE
In met blue, 54,000 Miles**REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995**

62 SKODA Rapid SETSI 5-Dr In white, 59,958 miles,
very nice example at**£5,995**

61 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style In white with black
roof, 73,000 miles, diesel, free road tax**£5,995**

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Good looking car**£5,995**

VOLVO V50 1.8 Sport In red, 56,000 miles with
alloys, a/c, good looking estate**£5,995**

11 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive In met-
grey, 63,000 miles, diesel**£5,695**

10 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.6 TDCi SE 5-Dr In met
blue, 74,000 miles, diesel hatch**£5,495**

11 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met grey,
41,000 miles with air-con etc**£4,995**

61 RENAULT Clio 1.6 GT Line VVTi Automatic In
blue, 16,000 miles, with sat-nav**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**

11 MAZDA 2 Sport 1.5 5-Dr In spirited green, 74,000
miles, very nice throughout**£4,995**

10 HYUNDAI i20 Comfort 1.4 Automatic 5-Dr
In red, 38,000 miles**£4,995**

10 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Edge Automatic 5-Dr In
mulbury metallic, 41,000 miles**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**

09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Titanium 3-Dr Automatic In hot
magenta, 53,000 miles**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**

09 MINI One 1.4 In met grey with pepper pack, alloys
etc, 57,000 miles**£4,995**

59 VOLKSWAGEN Passat High Line 2.0 TDI Automatic
In met-grey with black leather trim,
88,000 miles**£4,995**

56 SUZUKI Grand Vitara 1.6 3-Dr In black, 69,000
miles, 2 owners 4x4 with extras at**£4,995**

58 HONDA Civic 1.8 EX 5-Dr Black with black leather
trim, 66,000 miles, high spec**£4,695**

58 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 TDi (105) 5-Dr Match In
met grey, 70,000 miles, diesel**£4,695**

05 BMW 118i SE Automatic 5-Dr In met-grey, 57,000
miles, 1 owner, fantastic example at**£4,495**

09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Titanium 3-Dr In black,
79,000 miles, £20 road tax**£4,295**

08 HONDA Jazz 1.4 SE Automatic In met-blue,
36,000 miles, very nice example**£4,295**

08 VOLKSWAGEN Eos 2.0 Convertable In black,
79,000 miles, 4 seater with solid roof**£4,295**

10 RENAULT Megane Dynamique 1.6 5-Dr
In extreme blue, 57,000 miles, bluetooth,
alloys etc**REDUCED BY £300 TO £3,995**

60 CITROEN C1 VTR+ 5-Dr In red, 46,000 miles, low
insurance and road tax**£3,995**

09 SEAT Ibiza 1.2S 3-Dr In nayara blue, 55,000
miles, low insurance**£3,995**

08 CITROEN C4 Picasso 1.6 Diesel VTR Auto
In met muave, 85,000 mile 7-seater**£3,995**

09 FORD Focus 2.0 TDi 136 Zetec Automatic
Estate In met-blue, ideal family estate at .. **£3,695**

64 SAAB 93 Linear 2.0 Convertable (150) In black
with cream leather, 66,000 miles**£3,495**

58 FIAT 500 1.2 In mama blue, with glass roof and
alloys, £30 road tax**£3,295**

06 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr In met-blue, 64,000
miles, a/c, alloys**£2,295**



62 CITROEN DS3 D Sport Plus 1.6 THP
In white with black roof, 48,000
miles, full leather trim
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£8,495



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a/c allots etc
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Glamorganshire Golf Club ladies raised money for the Marie Curie Cardiff and Vale Hospice.

Club's drive sees thousands raised for Marie Curie

MEMBERS of a Penarth golf club have succeeded in their driving ambition to raise funds for a nearby charity.

Glamorganshire Golf Club's ladies' and men's captains joined forces to raise funds for the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice, which is just a mile down the road from the club.

Ladies' captain for 2015/16, Alison Smith, said she and men's captain Alan Buchan, had decided to combine their charities of the year, because both wanted something local to contribute to.

"My mother was in the hospice at

Penarth a long time ago, nearly 20 years ago, but we have never forgotten the wonderful care she received while she was there," said Alison.

The club donated more than £2,500 to the hospice, which provides round-the-clock expert care and support to those living with terminal illness and their families.

In order to raise funds, all proceeds from the ladies' charity open day went to the pot, along with raffles at the Easter fair, Christmas fair and ladies' open day.

The men also raised money on their open day, and during the presidents' weekend – which was held in memory of former

president Peter Corrigan, who died in 2016 – funds were also raised for the charity.

Alison said she was pleased with the amount raised, adding: "The main thing is that it benefits the people in the hospice and the local community."

Clare Wright, community fundraiser, said: "A huge thank you to all members of Glamorganshire Golf Club for their fantastic effort in raising £2517 for Marie Curie."

"The funds raised will greatly benefit the care and support provided at our Cardiff and the Vale Hospice."

Marie Curie is now recruiting volunteers for its Great Daffodil Appeal 2017.

YMCA Barry proud of male artistic gymnastic squad's amazing achievements



ABOVE, BARRY YMCA MALE GYMNASTICS SQUAD. Back row, left to right: Taylor James, Josh Cook, Trivett, Harri Morgan, and Sammi Morgan.

Middle row: Harley Clifton, Jay Williams, Jacob Williams, Charlie Watkins and Rowan Merrett. Front, Jacob Watkins.

YMCA Barry's male artistic gymnastic squad have had a hugely successful couple of months in several competitions and team selections.

There was much excitement when Sammi Morgan and Taylor James qualified to represent Wales at the British Grade finals. Taylor competed in the Level 4 Club competition and performed extremely maturely and executed some lovely routines. Taylor made YMCA Barry and the Welsh team extremely proud when competing such a high level of competition.

Sammi competed in the Elite Level 4 category where there was great success from Sammi and Team Wales. Sammi put in some superb routines and helped Wales to team gold.

This was a huge achievement for Sammi and teammates, as well as Welsh gymnastics as a whole.

Many of the YMCA Barry gymnasts competed at the annual Men's Welsh Floor and Vault Championships where they were a force to be reckoned with.

In the under-7s, the youngest category of the day, Jacob and Harley performed fantastically. On Floor, Jacob and Harley couldn't be separated and were jointly names Welsh Floor Champion, on Vault Jacob received third and Harley became the Vault Welsh champion, and overall, Jacob came second and Harley was crowned Welsh under-7s champion.

In the under-8s category, Rowan received fourth on Floor, fourth on Vault and fourth overall, Charlie became Welsh Floor champion, Charlie and Jay were jointly made Welsh Vault champions and Charlie overall became the Welsh under-8s champion. Charlie, Jay and Rowan performed together as a great team and also won the team gold for the category.

Moving onto the under-12s category, YMCA Barry gained even more results. On Vault, Taylor and Mason joint for fifth, Jacob fourth and Sammi became the Welsh Vault champion. On Floor, Sammi sixth, Taylor third and Jacob second. Overall, Sammi received sixth, Taylor third and Jacob second. Fantastically, the team of Cameron, Mason, Sammi, Taylor and Jacob were made Welsh under-12

team champions. In the last category of the day, the under-16s Harri received second on Floor, second on Vault and second overall. Josh went onto being crowned the Vault, Floor and Overall champion of the under 16s category.

A big congratulations to all the boys who competed, YMCA Barry were extremely proud, especially with so many Welsh champions!

Josh Cook following on from such great success, was selected to represent Wales at the 2016 Northern Europeans. Josh had a fantastic competition against the best gymnasts in northern Europe, where he deservedly came away with fifth on Floor, fifth on High Bar and seventh on Vault. YMCA Barry are certainly demonstrating their competitiveness not only in Britain, but also internationally.

With such success at the end of 2016, YMCA Barry were ecstatic with the male squad working so hard all year. This has only been topped by extremely exciting news which was officially released last week. YMCA Barry are delighted to announce that Josh Cook and Iwan Mephram have been named on the long list of Welsh gymnasts aiming towards the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

Over the next year, alongside four other gymnasts, Josh and Iwan will undergo several trials and competitions to decide the final gymnasts who will represent Wales in Australia 2018.

We wish Josh and Iwan the best of luck over the next year and hope to be able to see Josh in his first Commonwealth and Iwan in his second.

Additionally, good luck to Josh, Iwan, Dex, Harri and Sammi in the British Championships coming up in March.

Would your son or daughter want to join one of Wales most successful gymnastics clubs? YMCA Barry has classes suitable for children from crawling to teens in preschool, male and female artistic, rhythmic gymnastics, cheerleading and trampolining. If you would like any information on any of our classes, follow us on social media @ymcabarrry, call 01446 724000 or email sophie@ymcabarrry.org.uk.

SE

Tim and Alan in great form

A BERTH IN National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan has been in cracking form of late.

Last Friday at Chepstow his *Tanit River*, partnered by Alan Johns, landed the Best Odds Guaranteed at 188 Bet Chase Novices' Limited Handicap at odds of 16-1 and his *Fields Of Glory*, which made the 407 miles long trip to Musselburgh, took the Celebrating 30 Years Of Jumps Racing At Musselburgh Handicap Chase under champion jockey Richard Johnson.

Fields Of Glory went off at odds of 4-1 and those lucky punters who backed both horses in a £1 double won £80.

Tanit River, which Tim believes could be a Welsh Grand National

prospect, came home 17 lengths ahead of the Jonjo O'Neill trained *Join The Clan* and *Fields Of Glory* won by half-a-length from *Chain Of Beacons*.

Twenty-four hours later at Haydock Park, Tim's seven-year-old *DadsInTrouble* won the closing Peover Handicap Hurdle with Alan Johns in the saddle.

At Chepstow, Paul Morgan who used to work for Tim, saw his *Court Frontier* win the 188Bet.Co.UK Handicap Chase in good style under Denis O'Regan and former Welsh point-to-pointer *Gardiners Hill* ridden by Paul Moloney finished five lengths ahead of Tim's *William Money* in the Bet To Get 30 At 188Bet Handicap Chase.

BRIAN LEE

Ladies captain drives in for 2017!



ON a cold misty morning on January 17, the captain's drive-in took place, the ladies' captain of Cottrell Park, Jeannette Williams, drove the ball into the gloom.

Flags were put out to guess the place where the ball would land and this was won by Anne Woosnam.

A nine hole Texas Scramble competition took place - the winners were Frances Webber, Kay Bradbury and Jenny Knott with 36.6 points.

Following in the tradition of clapping in the ladies' captain, 50 ladies sat down to an excellent lunch. Prizes were presented to the winners, and then Jeannette thanked all the ladies for supporting her, with special thanks to those that had helped on the day. Flowers were presented to Jeannette.

Kay Bradbury, past captain, gave a vote of thanks - a good day was had by all. CB



Mini football section a success

THE Vale of Glamorgan mini section added the under-6s age group over a year ago to play out of Jenner Park on a Sunday morning.

This age group has now grown to over 18 teams playing on Sunday. It's been a great success and we have clubs from all over the Vale entering and enjoying for some their first taste of football.

Its also an eye opener to parents who can settle back and watch from the seats as the young

players enjoy the chance to play amongst friends in a safe and secure environment.

To get your child started or involved with a local club please search our website <http://www.vgmfl.co.uk/> or search for our Facebook page, Vale of Glamorgan mini section under-6s to under-11s.

A big thank you to all the helpers behind the scenes who make this possible each week while doing it in a voluntary capacity. LS



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Beaten but heads held high... Barry Town United do themselves (and town) proud in Cup final

BARRY TOWN UNITED were denied their first national silverware in 14 years at the weekend, but the team and the town can hold their heads high, after an inspiring display against all-conquering TNS in the Nathaniel MG Cup Final.

Watched by an enthusiastic crowd of 1,116, the second highest in the competition's 25-year history, Gavin Chesterfield's team were rank outsiders with the bookmakers in the build-up to the final, at one pointed as high as 40-1 outsiders to prevail in the 90 minutes.

Nevertheless, the Town put together a spirited and well-drilled performance at Cardiff's Cyncoed Stadium, defying their lower league status and holding the Nathaniel MG Cup holders and favourites until the 78th minute of this absorbing televised showdown.

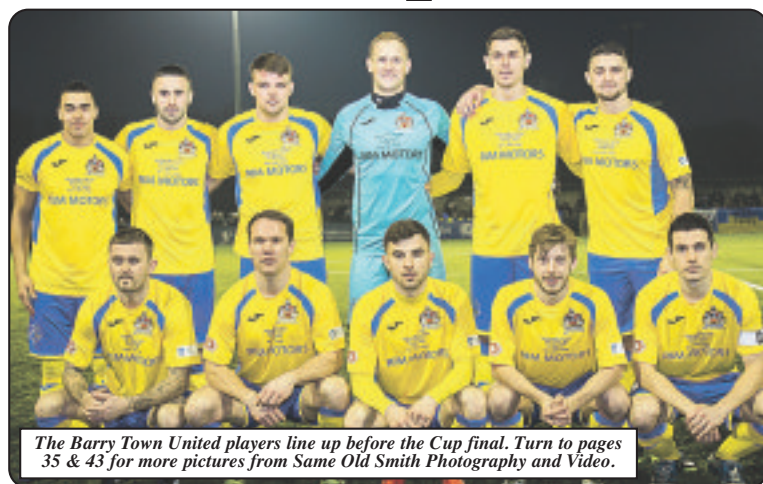
The build-up to kick-off saw a host of activities across the afternoon, from academy matches to pre-match hospitality, before a convoy of coaches made the short trip from Jenner Park, bolstering the Town's vocal and colourful support to around the 800 mark and creating a terrific atmosphere.

TNS would kick off in Cardiff, but it was Barry who would create the first chance of the final, with less than 15 seconds played.

Quickly gathering the ball after a Saints' pass ran astray, Town forward TJ Nagi coped well under pressure and unleashed a high, goalbound shot from the right side of the box, forcing TNS goalkeeper and team captain Paul Harrison to tip over his crossbar.

Moments later, an enthused Town would threaten again; fearless Jordan Cotterill embarking on an intrepid surge forward, threading a delicious through ball to teammate Nagi, whose right-footed effort was blocked at close quarters, forcing a second Barry corner inside the opening minutes.

Unshaken by the early turbulence, professionals



The Barry Town United players line up before the Cup final. Turn to pages 35 & 43 for more pictures from Same Old Smith Photography and Video.

TNS soon settled into their regular rhythm, attempting to stretch Barry by dragging them wide and spreading the ball across the pitch. TNS forward Alex Darlington would burst through into the Barry box, only for heroic Chris Hugh to deliver a magnificent tackle.

Moments later, Darlington found himself with another opportunity, after receiving right-back Ryan Pryce's bread and butter assist. However, brilliant Barry goalkeeper Mike Lewis would hit the ground in breakneck speed to stop his shot through a small crowd of players at the goal line, before full-back Paul Morgan was able to scramble the ball clear, despite the pressure of forward Greg Draper.

With the Town's attempts at a counter attack snuffed out, TNS continued their pursuit of a first half opener and appeared poised to break the deadlock when former Middlesbrough youngster Ryan Brobbel weaved his way into a goalscoring position.

However, Lewis would palm the effort away, ensuring another impressive move would count for nought, as Barry's robust display continued.

Despite finding their own opportunities to be naturally limited, Barry would be back on the front foot around the 20-minute mark, holding up the play effectively, before Cotterill seized the moment and skipped into the penalty area from the left, his grounded ball across to a

waiting Nagi gathered up by Harrison.

Saints boss Craig Harrison had replaced forwards Greg Draper and Alex Darlington with Scott Quigley and Chris Seargeant at the interval and the latter would play a highly-influential role as the final progressed.

However, the threats from the Welsh Premier League's runaway leaders remained across the field, with Barry working hard to keep their full-time opponents contained.

INSPIRED

While the Saints' high-tempo game plan showed little signs of letting up, Barry's position heading into the final half hour offered the underdogs continued hope of a remarkable upset, should they be able to build upon their tactics and resiliency with a crucial breakaway goal.

The Saints looked primed to score in the 68th minute, only for the inspired Hugh to clear Edwards' shot off the goal line and keep his teammates in the contest.

Then, Barry's big moment arrived. Winning a seemingly-unwinnable challenge against three of his green and white foes, Saddler fired the ball forward, allowing Cotterill and Nagi to combine with a smart one-two that set the former free.

With memories of his semi-final winner still fresh in mind, Cotterill then opted to go for goal, only for the prolific forward's fine sidefoot strike to rebound agonisingly off the TNS

crossbar.

Barry boss Gavin Chesterfield threw midfielder Louis Gerrard into the fray, with the 2016 signing replacing the long-serving Hartley for the final 16 minutes.

The onslaught on Lewis' goal would continue, but the tall Barry goalkeeper remained in formidable form, saving from Cieslewicz's latest long-range hit and scurrying to stop Brobbel capitalising on the rebound.

The Saints would finally find a breakthrough with 78 minutes played, substitute Seargeant receiving Brobbel's square ball from the right and side footing into the top corner from the edge of the penalty area. It was a quality goal to break the deadlock, yet a bitter arrow through the Barry heart, as the jubilant goalscorer ran off to celebrate with his outnumbered supporters.

Rocked by the TNS opener, the Town's battling players had barely even had time to comprehend the scoreline when Cieslewicz made it 2-0 in the 80th minute, the former Wrexham man capitalising on Seargeant's intelligent pass and finishing first time, to deliver a crushing second.

Reacting to the one-two punch, Barry manager Chesterfield would ring the changes immediately, bringing on Cup hotshot James Dixon for Fahiya and powerful presence Callum Sainty for Morgan. Unfortunately,

neither of the players would have the time to make their mark on the final, the landscape of which had changed in a heartbeat.

While brave Barry would continue to fight on, TNS made it three in the 84th minute through Seargeant, who then claimed his hat-trick in the 89th minute.

The 4-0 scoreline would be incredibly cruel on a Barry squad who had competed gallantly throughout the tournament, from extra-time in the first round at Cambrian & Clydach in August, to the final few minutes of the final, a game that proved far closer than many might have anticipated.

Barry will now begin the task of trying to reclaim their Welsh Premier League status, a task some 13 years in the making that restarts this Saturday afternoon, away at Afan Lido (2pm kick-off).

With 16 games to go, some may suggest that 16 cup finals await the Town this season, yet if their effort matches that of the match with TNS, the club will have every chance of their own glory yet.

Barry Town United: Mike Lewis, Paul Morgan, Chris Hugh, Luke Cooper, Ryan Evans, James Saddler, Michael Hartley, Curtis Watkins, TJ Nagi, Jordan Cotterill, Drew Fahiya. **Subs:** Louis Gerrard (for Hartley), Dan Bradley, Callum Sainty (for Morgan), James Dixon (for Fahiya), Bobby Briers, Kieran Cotterill, Callum Flynn. **AC**

BARRY RFC ARE DENIED WIN IN LAST MINUTE

BARRY first XV travelled to Minster Road Cardiff on Saturday for an East Central Division 2 game against their old rivals St Peters RFC who are currently in second place in the division.

From the kick off St Peters started the game very well and put immediate pressure on the Barry side. The visitors seemed very sluggish initially and did not seem to have any answer to this initial onslaught and conceded the first try of the game after only six minutes or so of play. With the conversion unsuccessful Barry were five points adrift and it looked as though a massive defeat was on the cards.

However, this was not to be, as the early lead by St Peters seemed to activate the Barry side and for the next 15 minutes or so of play they came back very strongly and the teams shared possession equally.

On the half hour mark one of the St Peters backs was deemed to be offside and Barry full back Kyle Barros made no mistake with the penalty.

With the score at 5-3 most people watching expected a positive response from the home side but in fact Barry did not let them off the hook and after only a further two minutes of play a long probing kick by Barry captain of the day Eiman Scott resulted in the Rocks' full back being caught in possession by two of the Barry forwards after some fine backing up play.

The ball was ripped out of the defender's hands by Rob Williams who then went over in the corner for Barry's first try of the match. With the touchline conversion unsuccessful Barry were 5-8 up with 30 minutes off the half played.

This was not in St Peters' game plan and they seemed a little unsettled by this change in the scoreline. Tempers frayed and during the last 10 minutes of the half three players were shown the yellow card, two from Barry and one from St. Peters.

This caused problems for both sides but it was St Peters who came of

best during this period of play scoring a converted try against a Kyle Barros penalty for Barry, the half-time score St Peters 12, Barry 11.

The second half started with both sides feeling they had a good chance of winning and understandably so with only one point difference between them.

Barry continued putting pressure on the home side for the first 10 minutes of the second half and it paid off when one of the Rocks forwards was caught off-side. This enabled Barry to take a 12-14 lead with a well taken penalty by full back Kyle Barros.

One of Barry's strengths has always been their defensive game but it let them down badly 25 minutes into the half when a missed tackle allowed one of the St Peters' centres, Alex Jones, to run a full 30 yards to touch down for an unconverted try.

With the score at 17-14 Barry needed to pull something out of the bag if they wanted to win the match.

Ironically one of the Barry supporters quipped "We need something like the try that Luke O'Sullivan scored a year ago to get back into this game game".

No sooner had he said that, Barry had a lineout and flanker Luke O'Sullivan peeled off the back of the line and ran a full 40 yards thwarting would-be tacklers to touch down under the post for a try which Kyle Barros converted.

With the score at 17-21 in Barry's favour things were looking good if they could only hold out. For the last 10 minutes of the game St Peter's threw everything they had at Barry only to be held up by a resilient defence.

On the 40 minute mark Barry had a lineout five yards from their own line and the referee deemed the throw in to be not straight.

From the resulting St Peter's scrum the St Peters scrum half appeared to have knocked the ball on (which was not seen by the referee) and he and the ball were pushed by his forwards towards the line and the ball grounded arguably a foot or so short of the line.

The referee, however, said it had been grounded over the line and he awarded a try and the conversion added an extra two points on the final whistle, the game ending 24-21.

Once again this season, as a result of some strange decision-making by official, Barry were denied four points and lost their third game in a row. On a positive note this was a much better performance from Barry and the coaches can be pleased with their performance.

Next week Barry are at home to Llantrisant RFC, kick-off 2.30pm.

Late week's lottery numbers were 4, 10, 14 and 18 - there were no winners so the prize increases to £3,515.

CH

Barry and Vale Harriers athletics news

Congratulations Evie Watkins for winning the Bronze medal for the under-13 girls 800m at the Welsh Athletics Indoor Junior open and south and east Wales regional championships at Niac Stadium Cardiff.

A big well done for Erin McLoughlin on her personal best of 10.85 under-15 girls 60m hurdles, while Gwenno Good came first in her heat for under-13 girls

800m. Vale and Harriers Athletics Club would like to thank all the athletes who attended the meeting and the parents who supported the athletes to make this happen.

Athletes: Sean McLoughlin, Lewis Ingram, Sam Sully, Olivia Banks, Alice Shield, Olivia Browning, Kelise Breeze, Betsi Mountford, Kirsty Law, Libby McKinney, Moli Lyons.

Well done everyone let's keep it going.

PG